

IDENTIFYING PLANETARY TRIGGERS

Astrological
Techniques for
Prediction

CELESTE TEAL

BOSTON PUBUCUBUHi

When the task is predicting the future, you need to have every tool in the kit.

Astrologers are most often called upon to answer questions about the future. Whether the subject is love, money, career, health, or legal issues, people want to know: “What is going to happen?” With important decisions hanging on an accurate reading, the astrologer needs to have every means available for understanding what the stars say about developing situations.

In this follow-up volume to the acclaimed *Predicting Events with Astrology* Celeste Teal presents an impressive array of predictive techniques. Building on the themes in the natal/secondary/transit triad, Teal illustrates by example such methods as planetary returns, precession, diurnals, converse progression, anlunars, along with other specialized and highly valuable tools for accurate prediction.

About the Author

Celeste Teal (Phoenix, AZ) first became interested in astrology in 1975. At the time she first picked up a serious book on the subject, it was to prove to a friend that astrology was not valid. The book happened to show how to find a rising sign and the various house positions of the planets. By the time she left the store, book in hand, she was a believer. Since that time, she has devoured astrology, never passing up an opportunity to increase her knowledge of the science.

In the early years, while working full-time and getting her credentials from the West Coast College of Astrology, she did hundreds of chart calculations manually and wrote reports for friends and acquaintances. Since then her articles have appeared frequently in *Horoscope*, *American Astrology*, and other popular astrology magazines. An associate member of the American Federation of Astrologers and of the Arizona Society of Astrologers, Celeste Teal is the author of *Predicting Events with Astrology* (Llewellyn Publications, 1999).

One thing that has not changed is her investigative approach toward astrology. Collecting data from a multitude of natal and event charts, she has carefully researched many techniques. Those found to be consistently reliable for purposes of prediction are shared in this book and will be appreciated by the serious student of astrology.

To Write to the Author

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Prediction

CELESTE TEAL

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Also by Celeste Teal

Predicting Events with Astrology
(Llewellyn Publications, 1999)

To my grandchildren, whose generation I enthusiastically envision utilizing astrology widely as the more sophisticated approach to new and preventative programs as it is incorporated by various specialists as standard procedure.

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Acknowledgments

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Special acknowledgment goes to Evangeline Adams for being a true source of inspiration in my own journey through astrology. Her first astrology teacher, Dr. Heber Smith, is due recognition for his notes on transits to her, which will undoubtedly be a great help to students reading this book now, a century after they were written. Acknowledgments also to the many other astrology contributors, past and present, for the work they have done, including Ron C. Davison, Rob Hand, Donna Cunningham, Liz Greene, Anthony Louis, and the list goes on.

Chart Data

Unless otherwise specified, chart data was obtained from the birth certificates of those people whose stories appear and from an accurate account of dates, times, and locations. In all cases, the greatest care was taken to present charts and summaries that were based upon reliable sources and accurate information. For most of the stories, names have been changed for purposes of privacy.

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It was in a typical Uranian fashion that I was first introduced to astrology. As the ruler of technology, and astrology in particular, exactly conjoined my progressed Ascendant in 1975, I met a friend who played a brief but crucial role in my life. Up until that point I was a firm “nonbeliever” in such things as astrology. I hadn’t checked into it. I just “knew” it couldn’t have any validity. She, on the other hand, was a dedicated believer and the first I’d met. We became close enough that this became an ongoing friendly argument between us. I decided to put an end to it for once and for all. In a bookstore one day, I opened a book on astrology to show her all the errors it would contain. Instead, opening that book was a turning point for me. As this intersection was crossed, however, we passed out of one another’s lives and she never knew she’d been the instrument through which I’d found my purpose—truly a Uranian connection for which I will be forever grateful.

I suppose it was my very skepticism that led to such a dedicated interest in the area of research. I was interested in getting to the root of astrological keys, in spotting a configuration, and identifying its meaning with certainty.

I had always had a fascination with astronomy and the realization that the motions of the planets reflected affairs in our daily lives made astrology seem like a mysterious gift. Maybe it was a tool for unraveling our very purpose in life.

From the beginning, I tabulated important dates and events and, thanks to an excellent memory, wrote up every notable event date I could remember. Always a student, when I came across a new technique I put numerous charts to the test and kept notes on the results.

Like many astrologers who started out in the same era, I spent my quota of years floundering—searching for what seemed to be the missing link between the keys I was learning and being able to actually “read” a chart comfortably. The task seemed somewhat grueling and there were times I wondered if I lacked a special talent needed by an astrologer. Good reference books were few and far between in those days, and very few books made it to my top shelf. You would find a little snippet here, a little snippet there, but never enough and *never* all in one place.

In retrospect, the one technique that was woefully lacking was a lucid work on the progressed chart. It was so apparent to me that transits were unreliable by themselves. However, the available information on progressions still left a gap. After testing various house systems, calculation methods, and traditional concepts, as well

as new techniques of specialty, it turns out that good old secondary progressions are the foundation to accurate forecasting. Another shortage of material was later found in the area of returns, and it wasn’t until I spent a number of years doing research for my own reference on solar and lunar returns that I found the secret to the progressed chart. It was so simple!

When I wrote *Predicting Events with Astrology*, my intention was to write the kind of book I would have liked to find early in my own studies. It was to be a comprehensive book that gave all the essentials under one cover and that helped to fill in those missing links.

With the same intent now, I regard this new book as the companion and compliment to the first. While the first book gives much greater coverage to the progressed chart and little-known secrets for unraveling the mystery of a chart, such as the Aries Point degrees and Saturn chasing the Moon, the main emphasis here is on planetary returns. I have found planetary return cycles to pivot upon the backbone of the progressed chart in such a way that the progressed potential plays out in alignment with a return cycle and vice versa.

Identifying Planetary Triggers consists of three parts: Part one lays out the fundamentals for setting up and interpreting the

progressed chart, including the timing of events. By following the systematic approach, even a relatively new student will be guided to accurate forecasting. Interesting case histories are discussed with chart illustrations to facilitate a deeper grasp of the dynamics at work during eventful periods. Feedback from *Predicting Events with Astrology* assures me of the value of a format in which stories will engage you while you learn the most technical elements of astrology.

Part two leads the astrologer a step further into reading planetary return charts. The return of a planet to its birth position represents closure on one cycle and the beginning of a new cycle in regard to that planetary vibration. Each of the returns offers invaluable data in regard to specific types of events, as well as their timing. For instance, the Mars Return furnishes a map for making decisions relating to new enterprises while the Mercury Return provides reliable data on the most opportune time to purchase a vehicle. If one has a particularly prominent planet in the natal chart, the return cycle of that planet and resulting chart furnish valuable information due to the response of the individual to those planetary vibrations. A chapter is dedicated to each of the returns, from the Moon through Saturn. After discussion of the specific symbolism of a planetary return and the types of events associated, the student is guided through a series of steps for interpretation, judging points of

energy, and timing events with the transits. Actual case histories with chart illustrations and commentary are included for each planetary return, again to show the principles at work.

Information is presented on the various calculation techniques of the returns, such as whether or not to precess a chart and what the underlying difference really is. What happens when you have three returns in short sequence due to a retrograde planet is also discussed. Several unique returns are introduced, including the Anlunar and the yearly Sunrise chart. I recently incorporated the Diurnal chart into my research with astounding results when read as a Daily Return, and it is introduced here with some basic guidelines. The Diurnal chart is a daily chart from which to forecast, and it appears that the same guidelines for interpreting return charts can be used to read the Diurnal.

Part three is dedicated to transits and should prove to be a refreshing change from the stale cookbook descriptions of the transits and aspects. The work of Dr. Heber Smith is presented, completely unedited and in its original nineteenthcentury vocabulary. Dr. Smith was the first astrology teacher to famed astrologer Evangeline Adams, for whom these notes were made. A research astrologer as well as a physician, Dr. Smith shares his insights on the transiting planets and

aspects in an entertaining and often humorous manner. For me, his material proved to be the single most valuable reference for comprehending the dynamics of the transiting planetary aspects. My hope is that other astrology students will find his notes just as valuable. It is said that Ms. Adams' top rival, Ms. Julie Pontin, paid \$150 for a typewritten copy of this material. Using progressions and important transits, both Dr. Smith and Ms. Adams were able to predict with remarkable accuracy. Part three continues with my own coverage of the transits of Pluto, which had not yet been discovered in Dr. Smith's time, and, finally, a chapter on the nodes of the Moon, describing their transits and aspects in any kind of chart. Concluding part three is a table of the nodal positions from 1935 to 2054.

Ms. Adams' achievements in astrology, including her certainty and accuracy in making predictions, have been my inspiration, and so it is that a tribute to her will be found in part two, where her Saturn Return is illustrated and discussed.

Yes, astrology is a marvelous tool and a gift. Now, with Uranus in his own sign and our entry into the new millennium, astrology has finally come into its time. With computers and astrology programs, the need to spend hours on mathematical calculations has been eliminated. I can easily envision everyone doing their own chart interpretations just as most of us balance our own checkbooks. I believe that in the future we will look back and find it hard to imagine a time when everyone wasn't astrologically knowledgeable. My goal is to help make forecasting simple so that one can plan more wisely.

Part One

SECONDARY PROGRESSIONS

Chapter One

THE PROGRESSED CHART

Natal Potential and Progressions

Secondary progressions are, without a doubt, the best starting point when undertaking to forecast using astrology. Since the natal patterns must be considered to properly assess the progressed chart, it is impossible to overlook the birth potential, an essential element in predictive astrology. The progressions show current potential and how the birth potential has developed to the current time in question. This is shown through specific accents involving natal placements to their progressed placements. The relatively few exact aspects formed between the progressed and natal planets at any given time offer a clear and concise background theme for the immediate future. This is similar to understanding the main plot in an unfolding story or a chapter of life.

Add to that the prominent aspects from transiting planets, and the progressed chart provides a detailed and up-to-date scenario. Encompassed in that scenario are current environmental factors, persons of import, fluctuating circumstances, health conditions, and so on. Our weaknesses and tendencies, even our attitudes, are exposed, including those that are hard for us to see in

ourselves. By taking an objective view through the progressed chart, it's easy to keep tabs on just where we sit in relationship to the rest of the world. However, leaving out any one of these three important elements—natal potential, progressed potential, or triggering transits—will leave out part of the picture and necessitate a lot of guesswork.

The progressed chart's features show developments taking place within while the transiting planets show developments from outside the self or in the external world. When these outside factors tie in closely to inner potential, events are produced. Some of the inner potential will last for a number of years, such as dedication toward a particular goal, which will have many events take place in regard to that area. Other potential is only available for a short time, and may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Still other potential passes quickly and is sometimes more accurately described as a phase, a whim, or even a mood. This can be seen in the quick movement of the progressing Moon. As an example, when it applies to square Mars, one is generally primed for crankiness and any little conflict might set off the current tendency. The transits show the origin point of stimulation when they tie into aspect with either planet. When a transit stimulates a planet that has become active in the progressions, that planet's potential is stimulated.

Now, the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity

or the uncommon potential is what sets one up for the very unusual experiences, whether positive or otherwise. Excellent possibilities may be shown in the progressed chart but something will be needed from the external world to produce an event. That “something” comes from the transits. In daily affairs, we usually do quite well with our potential and, by taking advantage of opportunities, we make good decisions automatically. To a great extent, we can influence the external elements ourselves and with the proper inner resources will do what we need to bring outside attention to important inner goals. But what about those times we could use a little help in making a decision?

Adverse conditions developing within will also require outside stimulus. The outside stimulation would need to come in such a way as to bring out the worst of the potential for an adverse event to take place. Still, the magnificent and miraculous, as well as the strange and bizarre, happen every day. Free will and choice are available options for almost any event on the horizon, but if we aren't familiar with the underlying road conditions, it's easy to take the wrong turn after it is too late. Those road conditions are found in the progressions.

This reminds me of what happened to a friend many years ago. A young divorcee

with two preteen children, she enjoyed her newfound freedom for a few years before coming under a severe Mars-Neptune affliction in her progressed chart. Ruling not just men in general and the mate in a female nativity, Mars ruled her seventh house of partnerships specifically. This was a clear warning to be cautious about trusting a potential mate at this time, especially should it be someone newly met. The configuration also suggested other things, up to and including the most unfortunate and bizarre . . . and so it was. Her reliable baby sitter of many years went off to college and a series of not-so-reliable caretakers replaced her. Her boys began to get in trouble in the neighborhood while she worked second shift as a bartender. Note the Neptunian factors coming into view. An active Neptune always indicates the dissolution of old conditions that are replaced by new entanglements. The fact that her position as a late evening bartender contributed to the situation is very Neptunian.

She then had the misfortune to go on a date with a newly divorced guy who immediately became possessive. When she called off further development of the relationship he began stalking her. This frightened the wits out of her and she asked for a police escort home from work on more than one occasion. This was only a precursor of things to come. Within the same week, she became truly confused and frightened when the welfare office contacted her after getting an anonymous report that her children were neglected. Was it the stalker or someone else? She never did get to the root of that mystery and, here again, is a stream of Neptunian

factors. Her judgment of men seemed to be obviously impaired; she was frightened and confused, and, in essence, she was a weaker version of her usual self. She had become vulnerable.

Now, who do you think should turn up right in the midst of these crises? Exactly, it was the “big bad wolf” dressed in lamb’s clothing—a magnificent specimen to boot! Big, tall, incredibly goodlooking, he was also protective (possessive). Under Neptune’s influence, she only saw what she wanted to see, despite the warnings from her friends who had no such Neptunian illusions. In her eyes, a helpmate who was so adoring toward her and her kids was surely a timely godsend. In truth, he only sought material and other advantages for himself by hooking up with her. He completely pulled the wool over her eyes and convinced her and her kids that his charm and goodness were authentic. As soon as they married, however, he became not only abusive but also took everything she had. Years later, as Mars moved out of range to Neptune and she finally escaped this horrific chapter of “fatal attraction,” she recalled that her gut instincts had tried to warn about

the relationship before it had progressed to the alter. Those years did a lot of deep emotional and financial damage to her and her children. Some of the damage was irreparable, yet she emerged feeling lucky to have her life. Her Jupiter Return for this unfortunate era is illustrated and summarized in chapter 9.

We see these relationships all too often, and it seems that no echelon is immune. She had, up to that point, had good relationships and wondered how she managed to pull in such an experience. The natal potential was found primarily in the twelfth-house position of Mars in Libra and a minor affliction from Neptune to the Sun (the co-ruler of the husband), but it took that progressed affliction and just the right transit to bring it about. The main transit was a square from Neptune to natal Mars, exact on the day of her regrettable marriage, and perfectly duplicating the potential suggested by the progressed affliction. This is the kind of evidence you will seek. A theme from the natal chart will be exposed in the progressions, and then an underscoring transit will tie in.

The question remains about what she might have done had an astrologer sat down with her and said: “Look, your longing for the ideal is interfering with your ability to see reality and you are prone to take unwise actions.” Certainly, she had some warning as it was. Might she have actually dealt herself such a hand, or was this a fated attraction? (We will return to this question later.)

The illusions and fog of Neptune are so pervasive when it is under affliction that even astrologers can have a difficult time seeing through its veils when it becomes significantly stressed in their own charts. It is the most overlooked planet in astrological charts in general, due to its elusive nature.

In assessing the birth potential, it will assist the student to know that one important factor in the natal chart will be found to distinguish individuals of great prominence from the commonplace person. In the charts of the former, the planets form very tight aspects and nearly all are interwoven into one complex pattern. It is as if every fiber of the being has evolved to possess but one primary intention. Sometimes two or three complexes appear, which will overlap and interconnect through the aspects, as if sharing a common bonding thread. Often, in these charts, a prominent configuration is angular. In the charts of more ordinary persons, the separate complexes remain separated from one another, indicating various features in the nature as yet to become integrated. This individual may go along one path for awhile, then switch to another as opportunity arises. The nativity of these individuals might also show a planetary emphasis in the cadent houses.

What this boils down to is that those individuals with ties among most of the planets will have the entire pattern stimulated concurrently by important planetary transits. This is similar to those with a Stellium, a T-Square, Grand Cross, or even an array of planets in the angular houses. These individuals tend to experience sweeping events and cataclysmic developments due to stimuli affecting so many areas of life at once. With a Stellium or close-knit configurations, the natal aspects frequently become exact at a very young age through progressions. Thus, these individuals may experience events of magnitude early in life. An extraordinarily fortunate phase in such a person's life may be followed by a phase of apparently unfortunate events or vice versa. This is determined by both the progressed potential and outer planet transits along with the nature of the aspects coming from them. In any case, these individuals usually become noticed in one fashion or another. It is notable that those of great success have often been provided with many squares and hard aspects in the nativity. Such a person is presented with situations in which there isn't an option other than to "do" something on an immediate basis. Combined forces put one to the test and it becomes a matter of sink or swim. Under sufficient pressure, these survivors learn to swim and that builds confidence.

As with everything, there is an upside and a downside in either case. While the

more common individual might wish for a more adventurous lifestyle, the adventurer looks upon the other wishing to have some predictability and peacefulness. Since the majority of individuals fall into the former category, the logical explanation is that the current lifetime offers an opportunity to continue exploring the various fibers of the being, to nurture them and empower them to come together in cohesion. Regardless of whether we are destined for distinction, each of us entered this life with a specific purpose and specific lessons to learn: a contract with the universe, set down and agreed upon when we were at a peak of awareness, and we came into this life fortified with the precise tools we would need to carry out our purpose. Here is found the true value of the horoscope. Because we entered our earthly life newly invigorated with a spiritual mission, all the answers are there, within the horoscope. The design of life is to provide the pathway for the personality to support the task of the soul. The experiences we choose and the choices we make influence the speed and success of this journey.

So, because we are all born with an individual purpose in life, it is upon the ever-changing path of life that we meet with opportunities to fulfill it. As we approach these junctures and enter a

fitting environment for some of the natal potential to be utilized, it is reflected in the progressed chart. At times we may proceed very slowly as only small amounts of the natal potential are provided an outlet. At other times we make rapid progress when conditions are prime for a utilization of a great deal of the natal potential. All comes to pass according to a higher plan and there is a time for everything. These trends are revealed in the progressed chart for any given time in the life.

As mentioned earlier, we have choices about most everything occurring in our lives. Some events, however, may be predestined, and the nature and time of death is most likely an event that has already been arranged. There may be few, if any “accidents” in this regard since we have already made that choice. Other destined events involve coming in contact with soul personalities who have agreed previously to lend a hand in our journey, and to help us learn the lessons we chose to work through in this lifetime. Specific types of stimulation in the progressed and return charts indicate these fated or karmic connections as well. Activity involving the Nodes of the Moon and/or the Vertex provides ample evidence in this respect and Vertex links may show an appointment with destiny.

There were numerous of these links in the charts surrounding the fatal/fated attraction. The natal Vertex was rising in one Solar Return and the Solar Return Vertex was found in an Aries Point degree, *and* transited by Neptune on the day of the marriage! There was also a configuration of return Moon-South Node on the natal Vertex in another variation of the Solar

Return, so revealing of the dwindling spiral of domestic experiences. Similar to so many of these cases, she felt compelled to be his savior and heal him of his emotional wounds— almost as if he’d been delivered into her hands for the job. With these return contacts on top of the progressed potential, it is highly unlikely that anything short of a long-distance move could have prevented this relationship from running its course.

The general theme of the progressed chart, combined with the types of contacts and aspects involving these special points, will reveal the nature and energy of these connections. Happily, many of these relationships of destiny are very fortunate and show up frequently in family ties, marriages, friendships, etc. Ties of the Sun, Venus, and Jupiter are generally very good.

Following is a concise, step-by-step procedure for setting up, judging, and interpreting the progressed chart. A few factual case histories will then be helpful in grasping the meaning behind planetary prominence and progressed trends. An understanding of the progressed chart will then provide an excellent foundation

for interpreting activity shown in the Solar, Lunar, or planetary returns falling within the same time frame.

Calculating the Progressed Chart

The basic calculation for the progressed planets is that one year in the life of an individual is equal to one day of planetary movement. So, for someone who is thirty years old, the progressed planets will be at the sign and degree they held on the thirtieth day following birth. The Sun is easiest to calculate since it transits 1 degree each day; in the progressed chart, this is 1 degree of movement through the zodiac for each year of life. The Ascendant and Midheaven also progress about 1 degree per year forward through the zodiac and in a counterclockwise movement through the houses. Use of a computer program is recommended to calculate the progressed chart, both for accuracy and as a time-saving convenience. The Moon varies in its rate of speed from 12 to 15 degrees per day, so its progressed position will depend upon how fast it was traveling at the time of birth. This margin of speed would quite substantially influence the position it would hold in the progressed chart by the age of thirty.

The easiest way to see all of the activity occurring in the progressions and transits is to use a three-wheel chart with the natal chart in the center, also called the *radix* or *radical chart*. The progressed chart should

occupy the middle wheel and the transiting planets should be in the outermost wheel. In this format, it is the birth chart that holds dominion and functions as the backdrop for the progressed and transiting positions. This allows for the easiest identification of important activity and gets the astrologer accustomed to seeing the whole picture at once. I use and recommend the Tropical zodiac and Placidus house system.

The location of an individual for the time period in question is used to calculate the progressed chart. Always! A relatively small change in location can alter the position of the progressed Midheaven and/or the progressed Ascendant by 1 or 2 degrees and if aspects involving these angles are overlooked, an enormous amount of information is lost. One or two degrees may not sound like much but in progressions they are everything! Traveling to a new locale often opens up potential that may not have become active in the location of residence for several years—if at all. Princess Diana comes to mind. It was due to these factors that the danger for her was much more prominent in Paris than at home at the time of her death. The transits are also calculated for the current location or the location of the individual for the time in question.

For those with Matrix WinStar, use the natal chart to calculate the progressed chart and then the transits. Open three windows for the names of the charts and drag the natal to the top, the progressed to the middle, and the transits to the third window. Click on “Add Chart” and find the Tri-Small wheel. Click “OK” to calculate this chart and then print it out. The ties from the natal to the progressed planets can now be easily tabulated as well as the transits stimulating them and we’ll go through each of those steps.

An accurately calculated progressed chart can be utilized for up to three months to keep tabs on major themes. Of course, it could be done every day, but almost nothing in the progressed chart will change and the only real difference will be seen in the quickest moving transiting planets. The progressing Moon will travel approximately 1 degree per month and it is the fastest moving of the progressing bodies.

Active Orb of Aspect

To correctly identify the active aspects from natal to progressed planets and points, the orb of aspect must be kept very tight. This is the key element to accurate forecasting and there will be a relatively small number of active aspects at any given time. Considering the major aspects is sufficient. These include the conjunction, sextile, trine, square, and opposition.

In progressions, the planets move very slowly from their birth position, and some of the outer planets will hardly move at all over an entire lifetime. The active orb of aspect is 1 degree for any planet or angle, and 1.5 degrees for the Sun and the Moon, also called the *Lights* or *luminaries*. The Lights are given a bit more width because they are instrumental in vital areas of life. Since the Sun progresses at the rate of about 1 degree per year, this means that when it moves within range to aspect another planet, the aspect will be active for about three years. That is one-and-one-half years (or 1.5 degrees) in its approach to the exact aspect and one-and-one-half years moving away from exact. When a progressing planet approaches an aspect to the radical Sun, the aspect will be active for the duration of the time that the planet is within that 1.5-degree range. The length of time the aspect is active depends upon the progressing speed of the specific planet. The progressing Moon moves approximately 1 degree per month, depending upon its speed at birth, so the aspects it forms will be felt for about three months altogether.

For the remaining planets, the time period of an active aspect depends on the varying rates of speed in which they are progressing. Some aspects involving the outer planets might remain active for months or years at a time, especially

if they were near a stationary point or retrograde at birth. These aspects must always be considered in light of other indicators for the time period in question. Although within the proper orb, some of these long-term aspects remain dormant for all appearances unless they are emphasized by progressions reflecting similar conditions and stimulated by transits. That's because one active aspect is never enough to produce an event of any great significance. The general rule of thumb requires three separate indicators or configurations of a similar nature to produce an event according to the theme signified. A planet that has become very prominent by numerous aspects, a planetary combination, or an activated house may produce such a similarity. This will be broken down and simplified shortly.

The closer to exact an aspect is, the more potent it is; our experiences verify this. For instance, the progressing Moon transits the chart relatively quickly compared to the rest of the progressing planets. It reflects fairly temporal circumstances affecting the emotional responses. Due to this rapid movement, it depends a great deal on longer-term aspects in the progressed chart as to how it will operate. In any case, when it comes into orb to aspect another planet, the associated trend is formed, a peak in the trend is experienced as the aspect becomes exact and the trend slowly dissipates afterward. However, as long as a contact is within the proper orb, other active aspects, progressed or transiting, can trigger the potential. So, under the right conditions, an aspect may manifest or "work" quite potently even when nearly out of range.

At this point, one specific exception to the rules of determining an active orb must be noted. Occasionally, two separate aspects from one planet will pull in the orb of the activated planets to one another. For example, in one of the illustrations in the

following chapter, an active aspect from progressed Mercury at 8 Scorpio squared the progressed Ascendant at 7 Aquarius while also squaring Mars at 9 Leo. Even though the progressed Ascendant was not technically within active orb of an opposition to Mars, Mercury's stimulation to the midpoint of the two allowed the opposition to function. This appears more common if the planet is prominent in the natal chart, or if the nature of the planet exemplifies the current progressed theme. In this example, the individual was in the midst of a war, ruled by Mars.

Prioritizing the Progressed Aspects

When noting the active aspects, they should be listed in order of their priority. This task should be undertaken with great care. Rather than using a search

feature on a computer program to handle the task, it is to an astrologer's advantage to find the active aspects by examining the previously printed chart. This helps to get a feel for the current vibrations, develops the intuitive faculties, and establishes certainty for future readings. Although minor aspects may be noted, it is not usually necessary and the major aspects are quite sufficient to produce a clear theme. Accounting for minor aspects prematurely tends to be more of a hindrance than help and tends to complicate the picture. An excellent method is to consider the major aspects and then check for exact minor aspects involving a prominent planet or point.

Since the active "hits" will be a short list, they can be noted by hand in order of priority in a blank space on the chart using planetary symbols and abbreviations. For the progressed Midheaven, abbreviate it *MCp* to distinguish it from the radical Midheaven, which would be *MCr*. The same would be done with the Ascendant, using *ASCp* or *ASCr*. For the planetary symbols, follow each with the *p* or *r*. In parenthesis, note the house ruled by a planet in active aspect. A different area on the page can later be used to tabulate transiting hits from outer planets. Use *T* in front of the planetary symbol for the transiting planet and continue to note whether it is a natal or progressed planet that it's stimulating.

Because they furnish such a fruitful outlet for energy, angular contacts are given top billing, and these include several possible combinations. Major aspects formed between the natal or progressed

Ascendant with natal or progressed planets or luminaries fall in this group, as well as the natal or progressed Midheaven with natal or progressed planets or luminaries. These contacts signify important and eventful periods. These links will always be found when an important life event takes place. In fact, it is safe to assume that without such contacts, the time period is likely to remain relatively routine unless the Sun is very prominent. The more aspects involving the angles, the more significant the time period becomes for notable changes and for dynamic events to take place.

To easily find these points of emphasis, begin with the radical Ascendant and scan the progressed wheel to see if any major aspects have formed, remaining within the allowed orb of 1 degree. Don't forget that the Sun and the Moon can be given an extra bit of width. Basically, you're looking for a planet or point that is at nearly the same degree as the Ascendant in the same or different sign. Then, it must form a 0-degree aspect for the conjunction; a 60-degree aspect for the sextile; a 90-degree aspect for the square; a 120-degree aspect for the trine; or a 180-degree aspect for an opposition. If

within the allowed orb of 1 to 1.5 degrees, it's a hit. Repeat this process for the radical Midheaven, followed by the progressed Ascendant and then the progressed Midheaven. For the latter two, both the natal and the progressed chart must be checked for new aspects.

The types of events represented by an active Midheaven do not differ greatly from those reflected by an active Ascendant, with the exception that the Ascendant is slightly more influential in health issues, due to Mars' natural affinity with the first house. Because of this similarity, it is best to judge the specific body and nature of aspect to an angle. The Midheaven can be considered as slightly solar in nature and the Ascendant as slightly lunar in nature, but events linked to either are quite personal, frequently regarded as a major turning point by the individual. Of the aspects, the conjunction, opposition, and square present a wider scope for important developments.

Before exploring all of the various planetary potentials, the remainder of the contacts should be noted. Following the angular aspects in priority are those made by the Sun. Once again, the Sun is very nearly always involved in one or more active aspects at times of climactic life events, and this may be either the natal or the progressed Sun or both. As the vital life force and symbol of the higher self, it illuminates and vitalizes any planet that falls within its rays. By a conscious effort of the will, also symbolized by the Sun, the potential of the planet in aspect can be

developed, strengthened, and directed toward fulfillment of the inner purpose. It is when the Sun becomes active that an individual has the best opportunity to make a personal mark upon the world.

When both the angles and the Sun are involved in aspects, there are crossroads ahead and this is predictive of major life events unfolding. The more activity, the more profound the events are likely to be. Again, the nature of the planet and its aspect to the Sun or angle provides insight to the types of events coming due when compared to the overall theme of the progressions.

From this it becomes obvious that when the radical Sun forms an aspect with a progressing angle or the progressed Sun with a natal or progressed angle, a momentous time period is underway and the most significant events of life are shown in these contacts. The conjunction, square, and opposition provide the most efficient outlet of the potential, though if the rest of the chart agrees, a sextile or trine may produce spectacular progress.

Following the angles and then the Sun, the ruler of the natal Ascendant should next be considered for active aspects, both natal and progressed. Since this planet rules the physical body, personality, and outlook of an individual as well as incoming stimuli, its active aspects are

a dominant note in tracing the current potential. These aspects may be nearly as fundamental as those of the Sun if the chart ruler is prominent in the nativity and, if this ruler is a fast moving inner planet, a bit of leeway may be given its orb.

Once the activity of the angles, the Sun, and chart ruler have been tabulated, take into consideration the natal prominence of each of the planets to establish priority among the remaining contacts. If the radical chart shows that a planet is positioned on an angle, most elevated, a leader or part of a Stellium, or in some way outstanding in the natal chart, the aspects it forms in the progressed chart are likely to be a dominant note in the unfolding trend. A heavily aspected natal planet would be on this list.

The aspects involving the Moon are very important, especially those made by progressing planets to the natal Moon. The aspects made by the progressing Moon also mark important personal events. However, since it moves so quickly, this Moon is quite temporal in nature; thus, these contacts must be considered in light of the remaining active aspects. Nevertheless, it will usually make an exact aspect to a planet that quite appropriately describes even a relatively minor event. The progressed Moon is covered in greater detail later in this chapter.

In noting activity in the progressed chart, note also the house(s) ruled by highlighted planets. Events corresponding with a house will take place when its ruler becomes-involved in progressed activity. If a house is brought into focus by several factors,

such as exact aspects involving planets in the house and by aspects involving the ruler, activity relating to that house is more pronounced. This general formula works in reverse as well. For instance, marriage will usually not take place unless the ruler of the seventh house is active in the progressions along with Venus, the Moon, and Mercury. For significant career moves, the ruler of the tenth house becomes active as well as the Sun, Jupiter, Saturn, and so forth.

In judging the theme within the progressed chart, it is quite helpful to keep in mind the traditional meanings of the planets and the aspects. The old and classical judgment of benefic or malefic planets and aspects has been largely abandoned these days by the counseling astrologer for good reason. Considerations are now more focused on whether unfortunate events will, in the long run, prove beneficial as far as soul growth. However, from the standpoint of accurately pinpointing the current trend from which to forecast, the traditional classifications are most efficient. The evidence that is repeated over and over is that a dominance of beneficial planets and

aspects will be followed by events bringing joy and pleasure while a preponderance of adverse aspects and malefic configurations signals the approach of difficult situations.

Mars, Saturn, Uranus, and Pluto are more apt to tell of reversals when involved in harsh aspects than the Sun, Venus, or Jupiter. Generally speaking, squares indicate more challenging times than trines when judging the way events will manifest on an earthly level. This is not a hard and fast rule, however, and the natal potential must always be considered.

When planets that were in aspect in the natal chart are once again linked together through progressed aspects, it indicates current conditions and circumstances that are especially inviting for the natal potential to surface and operate. The type of aspect does not matter, only that the two are once more linked together. At times of unusually significant events there will frequently be several of these repeating links found active within the progressed chart and even the transiting configurations will be in agreement, often through aspects formed among themselves as well as to personal points. When one of these natal links is thus emphasized through such a repetition, the birth aspect often describes the manner in which the new aspect will operate. That is the natural tendency, the inborn and dominant tendency, and it requires conscious effort to mitigate the effects of the planetary combination.

This means that an easy aspect in the

birth chart should not cause insurmountable problems when the same two planets form a stressful aspect in the progressed chart, although some degree of strain or challenge is indicated. These challenges can usually be easily overcome and should, in the long run, prove advantageous. This also means that a harsh aspect between two planets in the radical chart cannot be relied upon to bring a disproportionate amount of good fortune when they form an easier aspect in the progressed chart. Instead, these aspects indicate a time when conditions allow for some of the natal potential to surface and the opportunity to use it as advantageously as possible. A stressful natal aspect suggests difficulty in responding to the combined planetary impulses so that any progressed aspect will tend to reemphasize this difficulty through prevailing conditions. In the case of an improved aspect, the individual is provided an opportunity to modify the basic disharmony and integrate the impulses.

Since difficult aspects in the birth chart identify specific spiritual lessons, it may take many trials, many encounters, and many opportunities to reach the state of harmony one is in pursuit of. For most, it is a process that requires the biggest part of a lifetime and this is why

it is most often the natal aspect that furnishes the clearest picture of a later link between two planets. The birth aspect shows the probable or most likely way in which the new aspect will operate. Transits work much the same way. We will go into transits in the next section.

Once all of the active progressed aspects have been noted, it's not difficult to arrive at a general theme for the current time period simply by the type of contacts and the planets involved in the active aspects. By using simple keywords and phrases for these, noted separately, it is amazingly simple to find the dominant theme. One should always allow the chart to lead and remain objectively focused. The nature of the planets, as well as the nature of the aspect, must be considered. Finally, each aspect must be considered alongside the remaining indicators. As noted earlier, for an important event to take place there must be a minimum of three similar aspects or configurations that suggest such an event, *and* there must be something in the birth chart to support such an event, as in the earlier example of fatal attraction. For very profound or life-altering events, this number usually increases markedly and is heavily stimulated by corroborating transits at the time such an event takes place. A little later, we'll take a look at some actual event charts so you can see this phenomenon at work.

For now, let's look at how a short list of active aspects summarizes a dominant theme. As a brief illustration, say there are ten active aspects. Of these, two involve the angles and two involve the Sun. Bingo! Important crossroads! The remainder of the

aspects involve mostly inner planets, but one of them rules the tenth house and Saturn is involved in two aspects. This alone is enough to surmise important professional activity and issues surrounding status. The angular aspects show a turning point, and in this illustration, the Sun and Saturn show points of agreement, with the Sun signifying events involving personal honor and highlighting those in a leadership role, such as an authority figure. Saturn signifies activity involving the professional reputation as well as an association with someone of influence who can help or hinder the personal efforts. The majority of aspects, whether stressful or harmonious, can be used to determine the undercurrent of the upcoming changes, especially the aspects involving the angles, the ruler of the tenth house, the Sun, and Saturn.

If the Moon, Mercury, or Jupiter is also active, and/or a planet ruling the third or ninth house of the nativity, the potential for relocation increases. The approach of the progressing Moon to a natal or progressed planet further defines the immediate possibilities and assists in

narrowing down the timing of certain issues. These are nothing more than basic utilization of astrological keys, but with a focus on the most pertinent features, a clear theme emerges. Once the transits are integrated, more detail and clarification as to timing will appear.

In another hypothetical scenario, one particular planet may be involved in several stressful aspects, while the remaining aspects are easy. The department of life ruled by the conspicuous planet should be expected to produce difficulties while other departments offer support. Again, specifics will become clearer when the transits conclude the progressed chart reading.

It will occasionally be found that two quite different events are coming due near the same time. In such a case, there will be two quite different themes and the number of aspects increase. Frequently, one of the dominant planets plays a key role in both events. There might be some links found between the two themes and the transits would spark both, so that the first event has a domino effect in another area, or two unrelated themes are suggested and just happen to have stimulation from transits near the same time, producing two quite different events.

In review, crucial times are ahead when the angles are stimulated, the Sun is involved in aspects, and/or progressed aspects reconnect planets that were in aspect in the nativity. If a particular theme is emphasized repeatedly, while transiting planets provide stimulation and agreement,

it is safe to begin forecasting accordingly.

Transits to the Progressed Chart

The transits provide further testimony for probable events and corroborate the findings within the progressed chart. They are also exceptional timing devices. A transiting planet is more potent when stimulating progressed configurations than if only contacting a natal planet, which may be a dead note for the time being. Unless they stimulate activity occurring in the progressions, a transit may go by with hardly any notice whatsoever. If stimulating a planet that is active in the progressed chart, all of that planetary potential comes into play.

The major transiting planets, from Jupiter through Pluto, are most important in prediction. They excite and offer an outlet for the potential and in so doing they reflect every significant event in the life of an individual. These slow outer-planetary transits are, in essence, as significant as the ties found in the progressed contacts, so in order to get the rest of the big picture, begin with Pluto and work inward through these outer planets to tabulate contacts.

Although the allowable orb is much wider for transiting contacts, approximately up to 8 degrees, one or more exact aspect(s) to the progressed configuration will be in force at the time of any important event. The nature of the transiting planet(s), the aspect(s), and receiving planet(s) will very accurately describe the event.

Earlier, we discussed the natal aspects as having priority in later links between the same two planets. The same is true for transiting planets. If one of these outer planets is found to be making important contacts, check the natal condition of that planet, specifically the relationship it held with the planet in current aspect. Generally, a planet that makes mostly good ties in the nativity is not going to be especially problematic; however, if it is in conflict, a later transit to that planet will usually produce some degree of tension. In this case, configurations involving Mars, Saturn, Uranus, or Pluto would be more likely than Venus, Jupiter, or Mercury to present real challenges. An outer planet that is heavily afflicted in the birth chart is reason to suspect difficult situations each time it makes a transiting contact to one of those planets with which it is in affliction.

Let's take a couple of examples. One of the most treacherous contacts in general is Mars against Pluto; in a nativity where these two are in conflict, later progressions and transits that bring them together may indicate great danger for the individual. However, if there was a beneficial contact

between them at birth, it should be assumed that the danger would pass without irreparable harm being done. The remaining indicators will show the amount of challenge present and unless severe, nothing much at all may come of such an aspect in the latter case. Another example: Say there is a tight square in the nativity from the Moon to Uranus. A magnificent trine from transiting Uranus to the Moon later on may coincide with some good tidings in other areas but there is still very likely to be a disruption in the home of some sort.

By going through this process, you are eliminating guesswork and finding points of agreement between the progressed indicators and the transits. It should not be surprising to see how easily they emerge.

In looking ahead, the faster-moving dynamic planets should be used to time the event. The Sun and Mars are the best timers, reflecting the physical level of manifestations. In general, it will be when one or both of them support a stimulating outer-planetary transit that events will take place. Mars will frequently be found crossing an angle at the time of an extremely notable event. The Ascendant or progressed Ascendant often receives Mars' stimuli if this involves an

accident, physical confrontation, illness, or any event arising through a conflict. The Midheaven is often the recipient of Mars' vibration if the event relates to enterprise or business. As the event escalates in consequence, enough to influence honor, prestige, opportunities, or important benefactors, the Sun is more likely to work as a trigger. Of course, the way in which these transits will play out are dependent upon the sum of factors in force at the time, but if an event is coming due, the transits of the Sun and Mars most frequently act as the catalyst. A general rule is that the Sun is more often reflective of fortunate events and Mars the unfortunate. The nativity of an individual could indicate otherwise, however, which might be the case for someone with a well-configured Mars.

Bear in mind that without appropriate potential showing in the progressed and transiting configurations, these triggering transits of the Sun or Mars to the angles may go by with little fanfare. There must be something to trigger.

Finally, at the moment activity does prevail, the transiting planets will form contacts among themselves that repeat themes and planetary links from the progressed and radical charts!

Similarly, while a specific trend is apparent during an outer-planet transit through a house, it is only when that transiting planet is pulled into a hot configuration that an actual event will occur in keeping with its planetary nature in the area of life governed by that house.

Part three, which covers the planetary transits and their aspects in some depth, will undoubtedly prove quite enlightening in placing proper focus on the function of each of the planets.

Planetary Prominence

When a planet becomes prominent in the

progressed chart through an angular position or through several active aspects, an assessment of its inherent qualities will outline the types of events it relates to. To get a clearer idea of the planetary potential, consider also the natal aspects to the planet. This is true for both progressed aspects and aspects made by transiting planets. Keep in mind that the radical condition of a planet or luminary is the basis upon which later activity will develop and the natal potential takes precedence in determining the direction events will take when a planet becomes prominent and stimulated.

To give an example, Pluto's activity is often worrisome and, although this is understandable in many cases, if it is well placed in the nativity and forming only beneficial aspects, later progressed aspects and transits do not coincide with catastrophes, even when of a stressful nature. Quite the reverse in actuality, it

symbolizes a time when one's power of leadership can be developed as the required stamina is provided to see things through to a completion. Although with a current adverse aspect, especially to one of the Lights, some stress will be in evidence, the outcome should prove that one was furnished with a stepping stone to significant progress. Barriers encountered would reflect the nature of Pluto, such as excessive or obsessive drive to the point of depleting physical energies, an underestimation of effort, compulsive tendencies, a one-track mind, etc. The planet or point in aspect also furnishes input and must be considered for its natal potential as well as its inherent nature.

Unless they are extremely afflicted in the nativity, a prominent Sun, Venus, or Jupiter can generally be anticipated to reflect fortunate times. Any of the three may signify material benefits and exceptionally pleasant occasions. The Sun and Jupiter signify events involving honor and benefactors. One is often in a position to make progress through associations with those of esteem or high standing in the community.

Jupiter tells of material or spiritual wealth, and when it is harmoniously configured with the Midheaven, it reflects upon professional opportunities and honorable status. If in aspect to the Ascendant, it shows similar opportunities for happiness that are more personal in nature, such as marriage. Jupiter also becomes active when a legal ceremony is pending, and whether this will have pleasant or unpleasant consequences can be found by a thorough examination of the potential of the active aspects. Both Venus and Jupiter signify social trends and ceremonies. When they

are in a harmonious aspect with one another, they often signify elite social affairs and being in a position to enjoy the finer things in life. Such an aspect is also reflective of meeting a wealthy mate if other indications agree. In addition, Venus generally becomes quite prominent during especially pleasant events such as childbirth, marriage, and similar happy occasions. These three can be considered the benefics.

Ruling the higher self, when the Sun comes into aspect with another planet or point, the principles symbolized by that planet or point are activated and brought into prominence in the life. Through the solar rays furnished by the Sun, the potential of such a planet can be developed, strengthened, or mitigated by a conscious force of the will. The contacts of the Sun to the angles are among the most outstanding configurations. For instance, marriage will often take place, this being slightly more frequent in a woman's chart. Such a contact also stimulates the will to achieve on all levels and encourages the power of leadership. It indicates beneficiaries

who are willing to lend their support, and associations formed under these aspects are often among the most provident in the entire life. It is under this contact that individuals make their mark in the world, if so destined, frequently stemming from a significant association. Adverse aspects suggest challenging themes along the same lines and one might lose the favor or support of a long-time benefactor. The Sun is suggestive of masculine interests as well. It rules the father and, in a female's chart, it is co-ruler of the husband. In addition to its other symbolism, its aspects reflect either a time of ease or of hardship for these people as well as other important benefactors.

Venus is similar in a man's chart as it reflects events involving his wife. The Moon signifies the mother for everyone and must be considered as a secondary indicator of a man's wife. The Moon becomes prominent when events involving motherhood, the family, or women's interests arrive. Venus rules creature comforts, the people and objects of affection, general happiness, and harmony in relationships. It often signifies young women and their interests. Venus with the Moon suggests feminine affairs—weddings and bridal showers, for instance. With beneficial aspects the two in combination suggests much domestic happiness. Add Neptune and conditions may be blissful or utterly luxurious and the individual exudes a mysterious charm. When these three become involved together in stressful aspect, they often produce hurt feelings, lost love, or a broken heart.

The Moon also reflects movement, changing conditions, and publicity, especially public opinion. It accurately reflects times of personal popularity and support as well as times of reversal in this respect.

There are some cautions to be aware of if

the benefic planets become prominent while involved in numerous harsh aspects, especially if also angular. At those times they may signify illness, grief, loss, and so forth if combined with like indicators. It should be noted that a benefic on an angle indicates general harmony and ease. Countering aspects to such a benefic, or especially to a pair of these angular benefics, from a planet with an opposing nature reflects circumstances that will interfere with this harmony. Thus, these often signify disharmony, “dis-ease,” or disease. When a benefic is angular and in conflict with another benefic or part of an afflicted configuration and agreement is found elsewhere, the prevalent indication is one of loss or grief. Related themes are found if a benefic is found to be angular and the remaining active aspects are those of a disturbing nature. At times of death or bereavement following illness, there is usually at least one affliction

involving an angular benefic and one tie of a harmonious nature to a benefic, indicating the end of suffering and a restoration of peace. Again, a thorough examination of the natal potential of a benefic and the rest of the progressed chart will lead to an accurate forecast.

Further indicators along the lines of serious illness or conditions leading to possible demise are found should both luminaries and the ruler of the Ascendant become involved in threatening configurations all at the same time. There may be cause for serious concern should the Sun be the planet under attack, since it rules the vitality and the very spark of life. Adverse health circumstances stemming from hereditary or genetic conditions are usually reflected in harsh aspects to the Sun. These may also reflect on health choices made by the higher self or soul, as a requirement for evolutionary progress. Saturn and/or Pluto will most often be in harsh aspect to the Sun at times of ill health and very serious health conditions may arise at times when both are afflicting the Sun at the same time. Any one of the three outer planets afflicting the Sun simultaneously with Saturn indicates potentially serious conditions. In this matter, the afflicting planet may be either transiting or progressed.

Illnesses as the result of functional disorders are indicated by stressful configurations involving the Moon. A functional health problem is most often reflected by a stressful contact between Mars and the

Moon, and it is when transiting configurations emphasize a disharmony between the two that health flare-ups are commonly experienced. Such adverse aspects reflect some degree of trauma to the nervous system, with Mars symbolizing fevers and inflammations. However, this same configuration may reflect domestic situations of a stressful nature or a problem with the mother's health so all the pertinent factors must be blended and there must be agreement from other areas of the chart that health is an issue. Further health information on the Moon-Mars contacts is found in chapter 8.

Other adverse planetary connections to the Moon indicate different types of problems involving the bodily functions. Saturn suggests sluggish functioning of the organs and a decreased resistance to disease. It corresponds with chills and obstructions. Uranus may indicate a sudden trauma to the nervous system or bodily functions. Neptune may symbolize a wasting away due to improper functioning of the organs, and Pluto often reflects the surfacing of a health problem due to an overaccumulation of toxins. Either Neptune or Pluto may correspond with illnesses that are difficult to diagnose.

Mars is an indicator of masculine affairs, and co-rules a woman's husband, the father, and adult male children. Mars

and Saturn are often deemed malefic and it is helpful to consider this when forecasting the impact of events on an earthly level. Uranus and Pluto have certain attributes that frequently find them on this list as well. However, just as the benefic planets sometimes correspond with unfortunate events, these potentially problematic planets are often prominent at times of great success and progress. The potential of any planet can generally be found by assessing the remaining active aspects at the time it comes into prominence. The majority rules, so to speak. If the majority of the active aspects are fortunate, then one or two stressful aspects are nothing to be alarmed about, even if of a malefic nature. It will likely reflect upon the overcoming of a barrier, which allows for much progress and greater happiness. Besides considering the natal condition of a prominent planet, look also to the house it rules for the department of life involved. When one planet is involved in several beneficial aspects, spectacular things should soon transpire in the department of life it rules.

On the other hand, a thorough assessment of the area ruled becomes increasingly important should any one planet come under attack by several progressed and transiting planets at the same time. Although more serious if these are the malefic or outer planets, even Jupiter can foretell of danger if in harsh aspect at the same time as, say, Saturn. The departments of life ruled by such a planet should be addressed for weakness and adjustment.

Mars or Pluto in harsh aspect to the Moon sometimes indicates upheaval within the home or forceful issues involving a woman. Mars and Pluto have several attributes in common. Both reflect new ventures, initiative, and taking control. Each may signify confrontations and forceful circumstances, being physical in nature as they are. These two in conflicting aspect with one another sometimes reflect great danger, especially if other indications agree and/or if they hold a conflicting relationship in the radix.

When Uranus becomes prominent under

easy aspect, it signifies a new era and temporary associations with those who will act as a catalyst to new experience. This is especially so if in aspect to the Sun. One may anticipate riding an exhilarating tidal wave for the duration of time the aspect is active with punctuating events at times of stimulating transits. Depending upon the natal potential and other factors, new doorways may lead to finding one's unique talent, genius, and realizing the accomplishments of a lifetime. One should remain open and flexible, and follow through on hunches and coincidences. They happen for a good reason and lead somewhere important. If Uranus is in aspect to Venus rather than

the Sun, watch for feminine associations to spark an interest in the new and untried. The planet in aspect and the house it rules in the nativity can be traced to find more detail. One word of caution here: Associations that come about at this time have only a brief and temporary purpose; one should appreciate them for what they are and never plan to have them around for keeps. They only represent a bridge to increased independence and personal freedom. It will be up to the individual to carry on.

Uranus may reflect extreme and sudden disruptions to existing circumstances if involved inharmoniously with other planets or points. Situations reflected by an afflicted/afflicting Uranus arrive out of the blue and, like having the rug pulled out from beneath one, the initial experience is likely to be anything but pleasant. It is imperative to practice flexibility under these rays and remain aware and prepared to handle the unexpected at a moment's notice. With a fear of change or too great a need to be in control of schedules and the like, they can easily throw one into a nervous turmoil or cause one to become accident-prone. By going with the flow and understanding that these disturbances are occurring because one is being jolted out of an unhealthy rut and on to greater things, they are easier to cope with. A fear of initiating change in the first place may be the root cause of experiencing difficulties at this time.

Saturn signifies authorities and older people, as well as issues involving the professional status. One of the best aspects Saturn can make is a sextile or trine to the

progressed Moon. This is an aspect to anticipate with lots of preparation. When this aspect is in force, you can rest fairly assured that things won't get too rough and that great strides are in the making. This reflects a time of great achievement at both the professional and personal levels. Both areas are likely to come under improved conditions almost simultaneously and separate significant events are likely in each area. In general, it corresponds with a time of reward for previous hard efforts and holding steadfast and ethically to one's path. The result is found in the admirable opinion of both the general public and those in business. As Saturn is associated with experienced souls, knowledge gained through the acquaintance of someone of a mature age may prove invaluable. It is at these times that secure foundations are established for the future. Fortunate business or real estate dealings as well as professional opportunities are likely to open up at this time.

These beneficial transits of Saturn to either of the Lights, natal or progressed, can be anticipated to bring some kind of gain unless there are severe indications otherwise. If transiting Saturn comes to a place to make a beneficial contact to both the progressed Lights at the same time, celebrate—and be ready. One of the

nicest things about these transits is the length of time they last; opportunities arise one after the other.

Some of the most unfortunate events coincide with harsh aspects from transiting Saturn or Uranus to the progressed Sun or Moon. These often indicate hard times and heavy losses with Saturn and great upsets and potentially scandalous events with Uranus. I call these the *Red Flag aspects*. Be watchful if one of these aspects forms at the same time with an overall unpleasant trend. Saturn is restrictive, so something may be taken away that results in serious depression. With Uranus, something out of the blue will interrupt plans and bring complications into the life. If one of these contacts is short-lived, and/or other indications say otherwise, it will not be too serious of a matter.

In *Predicting Events with Astrology*, I detailed an aspect referred to as “Saturn chasing the Moon,” in which transiting Saturn becomes locked in a long-term harsh aspect with the progressing Moon due to their similar speeds. If the overall trend of the chart is problematic, this is quite taxing on an individual, bringing deep depression and even suicidal notions because the clouds of despair are so unrelenting. In an otherwise beneficial chart with this phenomenon, it appears that an individual is working through a spiritual process and there is opportunity for a sort of negative gain.

The emotions are still subdued, even

depressed, but one learns to let go of extra baggage, painful as it is, and to put things into a healthier perspective. In any case, Saturn can become locked into either a beneficial or a negative aspect with the progressing Moon, and it’s a good idea to check their relationship early in any chart reading.

Although we seem to be more attuned to the energies and lessons corresponding with Saturn and Uranus, any of the transiting outer planets have the potential to underscore events of impact when they make close aspects to the progressed luminaries. Pluto, in particular, is associated with extremes and may bring conditions that tend to isolate one in some respect. The two outermost planets’ relative effectiveness to portend major events may be found by their prominence in the natal horoscope.

Mercury and Neptune are neutral. Mercury in the natal chart and beyond will frequently take on characteristics associated with the planet it most closely aspects. It can be counted on to signify intellectual concerns, movement, agreements, and communications of all sorts. It is usually involved in angular aspects when one’s name comes into public notice for any reason, for prominent connections with the media, and for a name change. It might also indicate important affairs involving minor children.

Neptune's nature is to eliminate boundaries, thus it is difficult to curb into a precise category. On one hand, it reflects confusing issues, deceptions, intrigue, and escapist tendencies. On the other, it reflects true inspiration and dreams becoming reality. If strong in the natal chart, it may indicate true prophetic visions at times of prominence. In any case, it suggests that old conditions are dissolving while new entanglements are forming. In regard to its dissolving nature, Neptune frequently represents a weakened state of affairs if afflicted. Something is slipping away. In this, it appears to especially tie in with illnesses and with death, as it represents the transcendence from one level of existence to the next. The manner in which Neptune will manifest must be judged in accordance with its natal prominence and condition, along with the remaining progressed chart factors.

The nodes of the Moon are spectacular indicators in the progressed chart and the transiting North Node should be handled as if it were an outer transiting planet. Even though it is only a point in space rather than a planet, it acts to light the fuse of any planet it connects with, especially if by conjunction. When it transits an angle, the Sun, or nodal axis, the node signifies very eventful times. Connections with other natal or progressed planets are also notable and specific trends accompany the planet in aspect. The North Node can be viewed as a dynamic timer for events to occur as it

stimulates potential at the point of its transit. The final chapter of this book explores the potential of the nodes as they contact other bodies and points, whether natal, progressed, or return, and a table of nodal positions through 2054 is included.

The Horary Ascendant

Use of the Horary Ascendant is very helpful for shedding light in a chart reading. There's a somewhat mystical quality in the way it works, and the only way to utilize it properly is with a sense of confidence. When looking into the future of an individual, a primary clue is found by noting the first natal planet rising to the transiting Ascendant, called the *Horary Ascendant*. This natal planet reveals the types of events the individual is approaching in the immediate future.

A bit of background will help illustrate the proper use of the Horary Ascendant in the progressed chart reading. Horary is one of the oldest forms of astrology and is used to answer a specific question, usually, but not always, involving a "yes" or "no" answer. Meaning *of the hour*, Horary is founded on the premise that the answer to a question lies in the moment it is asked. The existence of a problem implies that the solution also exists and is held in the moment of

inquiry. The significance one is able to extract from a Horary chart depends upon the quality of consciousness of the person posing the question. Horary methods are never taken lightly or used for frivolous matters. The life span of one of these charts (the question chart) is about three months; they are used for pressing questions that arise from a sincere and valid need for the answer.

By noting the time that a client requests an astrologer's counsel and calculating the transit chart accordingly, the first natal planet to rise to the new Ascendant reflects conditions for the immediate future.

There is, however, another way to utilize this point. Even without a personal request, the moment an astrologer is prompted to look into a chart often holds a key that should be taken advantage of whenever possible. That such a prompting arose at that moment indicates a brief connection on some higher level, maybe to information that is otherwise unavailable. This might seem somewhat mysterious and perhaps it is, just as when the phone rings and it is the person we were just thinking of. Whatever is behind it, I find it a highly valuable point, precisely accurate and exceptionally informative.

This method was first discovered and used by Evangeline Adams nearly a century ago except she only used it as clients entered her studio and she termed this point the *Accidental Ascendant*) She used it to look into the chart of her clients, and relied on it as having the greatest priority over the immediate future even should it disagree

with the rest of the chart and no matter what the client indicated about plans in progress. Due to the extended manner in which it functions, however, Horary Ascendant may be a more accurate name for this point.

When calculating a chart for an event that has already taken place, setting up the transiting chart to as close as possible to the event itself will always show the next natal planet to rise as very descriptive of the events that followed. Many times the Horary Ascendant is already conjunct the conspicuous planet. Using it as a tool to read return charts has also proven successful. Since the return cycles are set into motion at birth, the rising degree is of extreme importance.

Moving in a counterclockwise direction from the transiting Ascendant, it is the first planet contacted in the radix. This is easily detected in a three-wheel chart with the transits in the outermost ring. It should be among the first notations and written along the top of the chart with a few keywords. Planetary natures are traced as before, with propitious times, health, and safety ahead if the Sun, Venus, or Jupiter is first to rise. Mars represents conflict, illness, or accident;

Saturn depicts delays, responsibilities, or sometimes self-imposed discipline; Uranus indicates unexpected obstacles and the inadvisability to depend on current circumstances and plans to continue undisturbed. The Moon reflects travel or sometimes relocation; Mercury reveals important news or an agreement; Neptune suggests intrigue, or missing or confusing information. Pluto frequently reflects enterprise, important financial matters, or a power struggle.

In using the Horary Ascendant to read the progressed chart, it often proves to be quite amazing in the themes it brings to light. Many times the natal planet next to rise will be part of an already stimulated configuration, thus accenting those issues. At other times this transiting Ascendant will be exactly conjunct a natal planet, indicating that a specific set of circumstances is close at hand or already underway. This factor is illustrated in several of the case histories to follow.

Targeting Event Dates

Throughout this work will be found many methods and techniques for targeting event dates, however, a couple merit special attention.

First of all, since events usually come to pass at the time the transiting planets form aspects among themselves that mirror the potential found in the progressed chart, a quick look ahead for that particular

transiting aspect may be the only help one needs. Keep in mind that this would be quite an overwhelming task unless one has already narrowed down the time frame through the progressions and knows for sure that an event is coming due.

Referring back briefly to the story at the beginning of this chapter, with Mars and Neptune the prime indicators and afflicted in the progressions, on the day of her unfortunate marriage, not only was transiting Neptune squaring natal Mars, but Mars and Neptune in their transits were in exact semi-square. Transiting Neptune and Sun were in sextile, a link from the birth chart of that afflicted pair. On top of that, transiting Pluto and Venus formed an exact square, very much in agreement with the progressed potential and quite descriptive of the problems ahead and of the outcome of the relationship.

Another example: If a natal trine exists between Mars and Saturn and the general theme shown in the current progressed chart indicates frustrations and blocked progress, with Mars and Saturn now forming a square, this pair of planets is a focal point for developments. Look for the next aspect they form to one another in their current transits. If a link is formed within the time frame that the progressed configurations are active, an event may be expected near that time. In

this particular case, we could expect temporary delays, restrictions, and hampering conditions to interfere with plans and goals, but in the long run the individual will triumph and the challenges may have contributed to an improved outcome. If the critical planets do not form an aspect by transit until much later, that progressed potential may be out of orb and unavailable.

There may be more than one set of planets that meets these criteria and this would be the case for an event of more far-reaching circumstances. It becomes a bit more challenging to find the exact date in such a case but it can be narrowed down. Each of the contacts may be assessed in the manner described and, theoretically, the fastest-moving planet that describes a theme might furnish the closest date. It is important, however, to have a clear idea of the central theme in the progressed chart and to know which set of planets most clearly sums up the theme set forth.

The planetary return charts hold a fountain of information about timing. The Lunar Return is invaluable and some later illustrations will show how to begin with the progressed chart and then find validation and timing through use of the returns. A Daily Return, called the *Diurnal*, is also an excellent tool for timing and is summarized in part two.

The Progressed Moon and Aspects

The progressing Moon moves relatively quickly compared to the Sun and other planets. It passes through an entire sign or house in approximately two-and-one-half years, and the separate aspects it forms are active for only about three months. The vibration associated with each of its

contacts is quite transitory and must be interpreted with regard to the remaining progressed aspects of longer duration. The Moon is one of the most important features in a nativity and its symbolism when in active aspect is extensive. A closer look at the symbolism of the Moon should prove helpful. Whether interpreting the brief trends indicated by the Moon's progressed aspects or lifelong tendencies indicated in the natal aspects, the following guidelines apply. In addition, they can be used for progressed planets in aspect to the natal Moon as well as planetary transits to either the natal or progressed Moon. Basically, they can be used in any chart reading, including the returns or the Diurnal. Only the time frame in which they operate will differ.

A prominent Moon, by many aspects or an angular position, indicates a frequent desire for change. Even when in easy aspect, these individuals show signs of restlessness and the need for a variety

of experiences. Occasionally, these tendencies reflect faddish ideas as they carry over to the style of dress or even dietary choices. Those with a prominent Moon are often trendsetters and could achieve vast public appeal or popularity. Several planetary links increases this potential, and the types of links are secondary in importance. Even the adverse aspects can be directed to the desired end when effort is applied to discover unconscious habits and emotional patterns. Many of the most famous achievers have stressful aspects to the natal Moon.

A love of travel and/or an inclination to make frequent moves accompanies a prominent Moon. Such an individual usually adapts fairly easily to new surroundings, accomplishing this in part by adding touches of home to the new environment. This love for movement has advantages, such as more easily finding the appropriate environment to advance one's calling, and making contact with those who can be of assistance. When restless tendencies are carried to an extreme, a constant change of direction makes it nearly impossible to produce lasting results.

Highly sensitive and variable, the Moon is greatly influenced by any planet it contacts. Each planetary link signifies personal qualities and fine points regarding the opinions and responses of others to us as well. Easy contacts suggest a pleasing demeanor, attracting favorable public opinion, and smooth-flowing relationships. On the other hand, squares or oppositions often suggest slight personality quirks that attract unwelcome responses from others. These personality quirks may become the source of fluctuations or reversals in one's popularity and status. These very peculiarities, especially those reflected in the nativity, frequently prove to be a source

of personal success once the energy is mitigated.

The Moon reflects the unconscious portion of our psyche, where old habit patterns are simulated by almost imperceptible elements in the environment. The tendency is to react unconsciously to stimuli, as if in reflex. Because they operate at an unconscious or instinctual level, it is through conscious awareness that they can be controlled and turned into a more positive trait. Unless we become aware of inner feelings and sensitive to the messages filtering up, recurring cycles coincide with new encounters of old problems with only slight variations. Stressful aspects involving the Moon are highly motivational and always quite dynamic, thus with direction, they have the potential to produce even more outstanding results than the easier flowing aspects.

One of my favorite examples is Walt Disney, who had several stressful aspects to his Moon, including a square to Neptune. He was a dreamer who might have

remained nothing more than a dreamer, but he made dreams a reality. In fact, Mickey Mouse first came to him in a dream. Many of his greatest achievements exemplify the best of Neptune, where the fantastic is captured and experienced as reality.

It's common to have both easy and hard aspects to the Moon in the natal and progressed chart. All of the aspects indicate potential for cultivating popularity and gaining the support of others, with the stressful aspects requiring more awareness.

Since the Moon's position shows an area of fluctuation, its progressed position and aspects reveal a great deal about our daily encounters and popular appeal on a short-term basis. As the progressed Moon gets within 1.5 degrees of aspect to a natal or progressed planet or point, the effects will be noticeable, with the most significant events usually taking place at about the time the aspect is exact. If it contacts a planet to which it was in aspect in the natal chart, the scope for important personal events is emphasized. Current conditions and environmental factors will invite the type of events signified by the natal aspect and it's up to us to make the most of the opportunity to observe our patterns of behavior. The position and aspects of the progressed Moon furnishes good detail to the rest of the chart.

With each link of the Moon, the potential is found in the nature of the planet in aspect and in the nature of the contact. The advantage with the hard aspects is that they force us to expend greater efforts to bring

about satisfactory results. With the easier aspects, we enjoy a certain amount of harmony without effort and are simply too comfortable to push for further improvement.

In considering the following links to the Moon, assistance comes from a third planet that offsets a poor aspect between the Moon and another planet. For example, if the Moon is in opposition to the Sun and a third planet forms a sextile to one while in trine to the other, the opposition will work dynamically, with support from the mutually assisting planet.

In fact, a planet fortifying both the Sun and the Moon is the key to balancing our emotional nature with our ego nature. Both are satisfied when we make use of those planetary qualities. Both sides of the nature find a mutual ground and a wonderful outlet. Everything falls into place.

The overall natal configurations, symbolizing the integration of elements and character makeup will modify the Moon contacts accordingly.

Moon-Sun Aspects: Some wonderful advantages exist when the Moon forms a harmonious aspect to the Sun. The aspect signifies an inner balance of the yin/yang qualities. There is often a focus on masculine/feminine relationships and success in bringing them about. This

aspect in the natal chart reflects an early environment in which the parents got along well, and the foundation provides a realistic and healthy view of the role of the sexes and allows ease in forming personal relationships. Partners are granted an equal role and rights while the individual remains aware of his or her virtues, strengths, and obligations to the union. Thus, relationships thrive. The face shown to the outside world by such an individual reflects the inner being—both are in tune. This aspect greatly helps in all kinds of relationships. There are no particular problems relating to either of the sexes. The opposite sex is of assistance in the pursuit of goals and may sometimes be of great benefit.

Stressful aspects between the Lights show conflicts related to the preceding theme. There are more or less disturbing inner tensions and conflicts; if found in the natal chart, such tensions are usually the result of parental discord in the early formative years. Gratification of the ego often seems to be at the expense of the emotions and vice versa. There is a need to get in touch with inner feelings of conflict and remain aware of the subtle messages existing in our communications and attitudes. There is likely some difficulty in relating to the opposite sex, usually a residue from a previous experience. The aspect greatly reduces the amount of help one can expect from the opposite sex, and in some cases, they may actually work against one. This is nothing more than an outward manifestation of our own inner discord. The conjunction of these two may occasionally show health problems to

overcome. An opposition of the two may show tension that occasionally verges on frenzy. However, the tension reflected in the hard contacts often acts as a catalyst to outstanding achievement.

Moon-Mercury Aspects: If the Moon is in harmonious aspect to Mercury, the intellect is superb. There is good communication between the mind and the senses, which brings fluency in speech and writing. It is easy to concentrate and the memory is sharp. There is an innate ability to keep emotions separate from the thought processes with a resulting ability to remain objective. In the natal chart, such an aspect signifies that the mother was bright and intelligent, thus early nurturing was along intellectual lines. Relationships with women are fortunate in general, who tend to be of keen mentality and a wonderful line of support.

If the Moon and Mercury form a hard aspect, there is a need to remain highly aware in all communications. There is a tendency toward meaningless chitchat or an inconsiderate attitude for the feelings of one's audience. Difficulties in

communication can range from confused thinking to forgetfulness or paying too little attention at crucial times. It is especially important to work on developing in-depth knowledge of a few subjects rather than accumulating a superficial knowledge of many. One may become critical, harsh, or sarcastic in relating to women or be the target of such experiences and attitudes. Other women may not prove to be of any particular benefit or support until one is able to work through unconscious and inappropriate attitudes towards them.

Moon-Venus Aspects: With the Moon and Venus in good aspect, the affections and loving feelings are stimulated. Others find enjoyment in the company of such an individual because he or she is considerate and has a pleasing personality. One is well received due to giving an impression of true concern for the feelings of others. Highly sensitive, such an individual is tactful and quite the diplomat. There is a love of beauty and for a harmonious environment. Quite conscious of appearances, there may be a gift for fashion or artistic design. One is appreciative of other women and they, in turn, are kind and helpful.

These two in hard aspect indicate a need to overcome past emotional wounds. Others may be inconsiderate of the feelings or only involved for personal gain. One is susceptible to being taken advantage of by a play upon the feelings. However, the individual with such an aspect might also be rightly accused of these same traits. The aspect may signify an overly detached demeanor or carelessness about the feelings of others. There is a tendency to be overly self-indulgent and care should be taken in the physical image presented. The women surrounding one may be indifferent or withhold their affections, possibly to match

the vibrations they are receiving.

Moon-Mars Aspects: If the Moon is in fortunate aspect to Mars it's easy to present a strong public image and dynamic personality. Others admire a sense of competition and a zestful personal nature. Such an individual has the ability to become passionate and aggressively involved in an issue or to remain detached if that is the best policy. If found in the natal chart, the aspect reflects a mother who was energetic and determined. Important women surrounding one are positive in their outlook and offer strong support. These aspects are of a similar nature to the Moon-Sun contacts as they reflect the masculine/femi- nine elements.

These two in stressful contact signify a personality that automatically becomes passionate and fired up about everything. It's all or nothing! There is no inbetween and circumstances usually force one into heated reactions. There may be

some difficulties and upsets on the home front—the aspect has the connotation of the “bull in the china closet.” Important women tend to be quarrelsome and more hindrance than help, but it takes two to tango. Actions based solely on unconscious emotional patterns usually cause such entanglements. In pursuing goals, the individual often gets off to a powerful start but begins to fizzle before results are realized. Inner effort and discipline are needed to stick with a project long enough to see it through to success. This aspect occasionally suggests coordination difficulties, a health problem, or accident, so it’s important to make an effort to remain centered and grounded under pressures that arise.

Note that a conjunction of the Moon and Mars may act as either an easy or a difficult aspect, depending on the sign and aspects to the pair.

Moon-Jupiter Aspects: The Moon in good aspect to Jupiter tends toward an admirable sense of ethics and morals. In the natal chart the aspect would indicate an upbringing that established these qualities firmly into the personality. Reflecting an image of personal dignity, the term “noble” may well describe such an individual’s motivations and efforts. Friendly and cordial to others, both generosity and prudence are demonstrated. Other people have great confidence in such a person and are willing to give them a leading position, following closely behind. The women surrounding one are very fortunate influences.

These two in poor aspect suggest a tendency to go overboard in regard to the previous themes. The personality may be excessive, overly expansive, or too showy. There is a tendency to become overly friendly too quickly. Expansive promises

are made and the individual gives the impression that he or she is just too good to be true. Generous to a fault, such an individual ignores ways to save money even when it is most needed. This aspect in the natal chart suggests the influence of an impractical mother. Important women surrounding one may be a cause of debts or they may have impossible expectations. They may also be boring, snooty, extravagant, or wild in their ways.

Note that the poor aspects of the Moon to Jupiter are among the easiest to direct, and there are still many of the positive qualities of the easier aspects.

Moon-Saturn Aspects: If the Moon is in fortunate aspect to Saturn, a sense of responsibility impresses other people. Although serious and somber, such an individual remains loyal to those with whom a commitment is made. Possessing a businesslike manner, promises are never made unless they can be kept. Conservative in handling money and in his or her approach to life, a fair return is expected

from all efforts and expenditures. Even with positive aspects there may be a need to loosen the purse strings from time to time lest one becomes the scrooge. If in the natal chart, many of these qualities were instilled from a stable mother who encouraged sensibility and following a strict code of ethics. Important women provide practical and sound advice.

These two in hard aspect suggests an aloof manner and maintaining a cool distance from others. A tendency to concentrate on the more serious aspects of life sometimes leads to depression. Others may find it difficult to open up and enjoy the company of such an individual. There is the likelihood of giving an impression of stinginess in general and self-centeredness in one's ambitions. A tendency toward dental problems, colds, or flu necessitates precautionary measures. This aspect found in the natal chart indicates a mother who was strict and possibly a hindrance to the ambitions. The women in one's life tend to be somewhat self-seeking and may need to be cared for. The hard aspects often indicate early trials, followed by great advancements.

Note that the conjunction of the Moon with Saturn sometimes works well together and sometimes with difficulty, depending on the sign they occupy and aspects made to the pair. These contacts have been found to significantly reflect fluctuations to status, professional success, and achievement when found in the progressed chart.

Moon-Uranus Aspects: When the Moon is in positive aspect to Uranus, a magnetic

personality draws others. A quality of animation provides others with a sense of liveliness, which naturally attracts. Other people easily accept the unconventional methods of such an individual and would like to be just as adventurous and original. Found in the natal chart, the aspect suggests natural rhythm, a talent for music, electronics, or science. One's mother was likely to have been unconventional or was in some way unusual. Important women tend to be organized or brilliant, and sometimes act as a catalyst for new experience. The progressed contact indicates potential for learning new technologies, flashes of constructive intuition, and a good sense of timing.

These two in hard aspect suggest that while there is independence of thought, one may be out of tune in relationships or in response to others. A tendency to become too boisterous or noisy can repel others, or there may be evidence of a temperamental and rebellious attitude. Always choosing the abandoned or lost cause leaves others cautious of lending their support. It is part of the nature to feel "differently" than others and one must expect some unusual repercussions in order to maintain a line of independent

thought. The reputation is often prone to sudden reversals. If in the natal chart, one's mother was probably eccentric in some way or chose unpredictable disciplinary measures. Women in the life may be unstable or so changeable that they are unable to contribute to the ambitions.

Moon-Neptune Aspects: With the Moon in favorable aspect to Neptune there is a charming demeanor and an air of mystery. Quite intuitive, it is easy to become emotionally inspired in pursuing one's goals. Others are drawn to inspirational stories of the ideal and would like to have a similar view of the world. If in the natal chart, the mother was a source of inspiration and encouragement in setting high ideals and following one's dreams. Associations with women are uplifting and they incline one toward idealistic goals.

With these two in unfavorable aspect, there is a tendency to become easily confused and/or somewhat impractical in setting or reaching goals. Time and energy are spent daydreaming about possible accomplishments, with considerably less time devoted to taking the actual steps to bring them about. While there is a great need to be inspired on an emotional level, the individual finds it difficult to determine which visions are leading to higher planes and which are leading nowhere. These aspects sometimes reflect a tendency toward the use of drugs or alcohol as a route to tranquility or as an escape from reality. The morals may be weakened, making it easy to be led astray. If in the natal chart, the mother may have been

irresponsible. Deceptions may be encountered or practiced in relationships, especially those with women.

Moon-Pluto Aspects: With the Moon in fortunate aspect to Pluto, there is a natural comprehension of the power of thoughts, almost as if they are tangible objects. For these individuals, it is second nature to use the will to energize ideas in order to bring about desired results. The aspect gives great sensitivity and there may be psychic abilities or prophetic dreams. The sense of touch is highly developed and one may be especially talented in one of the sciences. Women in the life are dominant and strong and a regenerating process is continually taking place in the domestic sphere, leading to constant improvement.

With the Moon in adverse aspect to Pluto, there is a tendency to be pushy and forceful in relationships with others. There is a need to work on overcoming a natural tendency to try to dominate relationships. This, combined with an intensely emotional nature, can cause others to be uncomfortable in one's presence. Such an individual becomes impatient easily and quite immovable if conditions are in conflict with the desire nature. This stems from an inner feeling

that instantaneous changes are necessary within the immediate surroundings. Such an individual can be a source of great accomplishment if the dynamic personality is directed properly. With these aspects, it is often a temptation to give in to feelings of revenge or personal superiority. Women in the life may be forceful and/or resort to drastic solutions to problems.

Because planetary contacts function exactly the same way whether a faster-moving planet aspects a slower-moving planet or vice versa, the above descriptions may also be applied to planets progressing to aspect the natal or progressed Moon. The only difference is in the amount of time the potential is actively stimulated, which is the duration of the time the two are within a

1.5-degree orb.

The foregoing may also be applied to aspects of the Moon in any return chart. The only difference is the length of time the aspect is in force. If in the Diurnal, the potential is available for one day; if in the Lunar Return, about one month; if in the Solar Return, one year.

Note

1. Adams, Evangeline. *The Bowl of Heaven*. (reprint, Santa Fe, NM: Sun Books Publishing, 1995).

Chapter Two

1 THE PROGRESSIONS AT WORK

A Battle for Custody

Now, let's take a look at a case history and put the previous concepts to work. The progressed chart illustrated was calculated for Lee's twenty-fifth birthday (chart 1). The natal chart is in the center wheel, with the progressed chart in the middle, and the transiting planets on the outside. Lee's chart was featured in *Predicting Events with Astrology* as it related to a new romance. The illustration was one in which the rays of Pluto forewarned of problems and incompatibility for the longterm. Nevertheless, his chart showed exceptional potential for meeting a life-mate. Here we will take up with events just a few months later when he did marry, but he married someone else.

In checking the Horary Ascendant, as described in the previous chapter, we find it is lined up with Lee's natal Ascendant because his time of birth was used to calculate his birthday progressions and transits. The first natal planet to rise is Uranus, signifying a glitch ahead and some disruptions to plans. Since the progressed Sun is also rising in the Horary Ascendant, we further contemplate immediate events of a beneficial nature.

In checking the active progressed has arrived.

aspects, we look first to any angular connections and find that the progressed Midheaven is perfectly conjunct natal Venus. This is an especially important contact because Venus rules the nativity and the aspect signifies activity involving loved ones. We also find that progressed Mars, ruler of the seventh house, is sextile both the progressed Midheaven and natal Venus. These two contacts actually imply the same theme in triplicate. Issues involving the seventh house of partners are brought prominently into the limelight and the fact that Venus is again activated emphasizes a theme involving an important love connection. The Mars to Venus sextile is a signature aspect of cooperation and harmony between the sexes. Other than a trine from the progressed Midheaven to the natal Part of Fortune, thus connecting the Part of Fortune also to both Venus and Mars, there are no other angular contacts.

However, it is quite noticeable in surveying the chart that the progressed Sun and progressed Moon have just formed a New Moon in the sign of Libra in the first house. This implies personal new beginnings in love. In the sign of Libra, the configuration duplicates the vibrations of the Venus-Mars activity and the activity suggested by Venus on the Midheaven. The conjunction of the transiting North Node to the natal Sun is another unmistakable augury that the time for important events

Even without further exploration at this point, we see a definite theme unfolding, and the rule of three has been met and exceeded. The picture of Lee's impending marriage could not be any clearer than as shown in these aspects. Very close at hand it was, taking place a few days later, with transiting Jupiter trined the progressed Sun, transiting Uranus and Pluto stimulating the major progressed configuration that described the event (Venus conjunct Midheaven), and Saturn transiting the seventh house to indicate a serious partnership involving responsibility. Notice that in the natal chart, the seventh-house ruler (Mars) is in close conjunction to the Sun. On the day of the wedding, these two in their transits were once again connected, this time by a sextile.

Although additional contacts can be found, these are the prominent features reflecting Lee's second marriage; however, we haven't completed assessing his progressed chart, and there is more to come.

Keeping in mind the previous array of aspects, we also find a few discomfoting contacts. Uranus signified an upcoming complication. Progressed Venus is forming a square to natal Neptune. Aside from love and marriage, Venus suggests the object of one's affection and, again, this is an important

contact because Venus rules Lee's natal encounters.

CENTER
Lee
September
Geocentric
Tropical

MIDDLE
Progressed Chart
September 12, 1997
Geocentric
Tropical

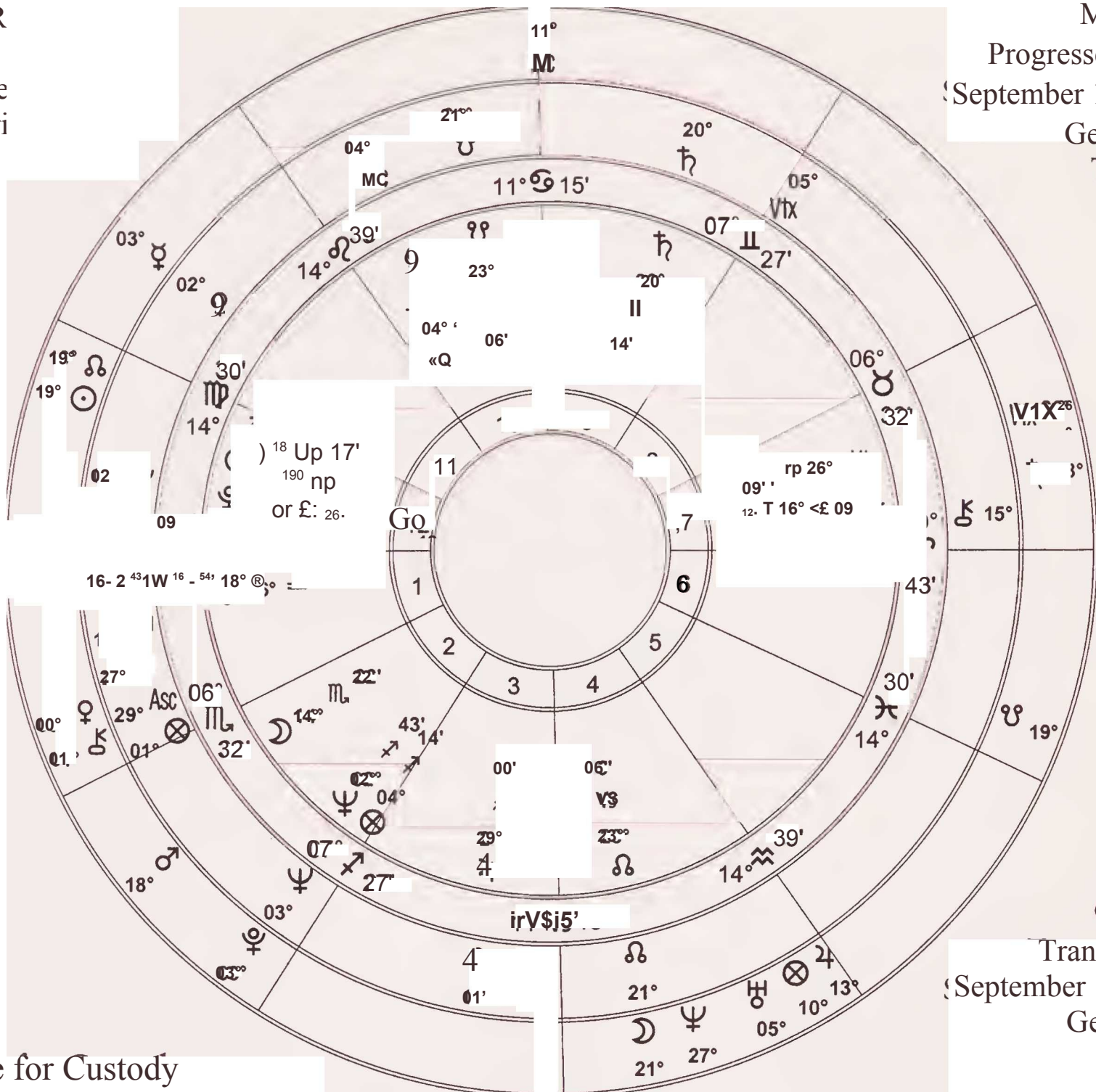


Chart 1.
A Battle for Custody

chart. Neptune suggests intrigue as well as the dissolution of previous conditions. The current square between the two indicates some degree of stress with potential for heartbreaking experiences. There may be deceptive activity surrounding a loved one. However, the natal trine between Venus and Neptune suggests that Lee will be able to overcome whatever barriers he

Progressed Jupiter is square natal Pluto, an aspect from the natal chart that has become exact through the progressions, thus its effects are a bit more severe. Such a configuration suggests a party in strong resistance to Lee's goals, which he will have to take a stand to

defend. Power struggles and potentially obsessive behavior by him and/or the party of resistance is in the making, and the contact is highly reflective of both legal and financial conflicts. The progressed Moon is within orb of conjunction to both natal and progressed Uranus, ruler of Lee's fifth house. Affairs surrounding children as well as the presence of a woman are indicated; this is a signature aspect of domestic upheaval and separations. A square from transiting Pluto to progressed Venus ties into this theme and suggests power struggles concerning loved ones. The opposition from transiting Uranus, ruler of the fifth, to natal Venus again implies upheavals and separations involving children as the objects of affection.

These configurations reflect, quite appropriately, the events that took place a month following Lee's birthday. At that time he was forced to file for the emergency custody of his two minor children from his previous marriage, whose mother intended to leave the state with them. Lee had been left in the dark and had little time to react. The transits at the time were in agreement all the way down to the Moon, which squared his progressed Ascendant and opposed natal Venus. The North Node was conjunct natal Mars, indicating a peak of conflicts and the Sun was conjunct the Moon-Uranus progressed conjunction in the first house while trine to natal Saturn. He won custody and eventually the battle, but only through a powerful struggle and great expense.

Today, Lee is very happily married and domestic conditions have stabilized. He married the girl he met when the "not to be" relationship hit insurmountably rough waters. The children have both their parents close at hand, who share equally in their nurturing. They also now have a new baby

brother, whom they adore.

Several wonderful events took place in the year that followed the preceding chart. Lee changed occupations, bought a home, and found out he was "expecting." His Solar Return and Lunar Return are featured in those sections to illustrate peaks of important activity within the year and within the month.

Princess Diana

Another illustration of the progressed potential is found in the chart of Princess Diana at the time of her death. According to official records at Buckingham Palace, she was born at 7:45 P.M. on July 1, 1961, in Sandringham, England (chart 2). Her natal eighth house held a trio of potentially explosive planets. With the emphasis of the North Node, which generally acts as an exclamation point upon planets nearby, the configuration precisely describes the potential for an untimely death. An

eighth-house Mars and Pluto formed a factors can be found in the progressed chart

CENTER
Princess
July 1, 19
Geocentric
Tropical

MIDDLE
Progressed Chart
August 31, 1997
Geocentric
Tropical

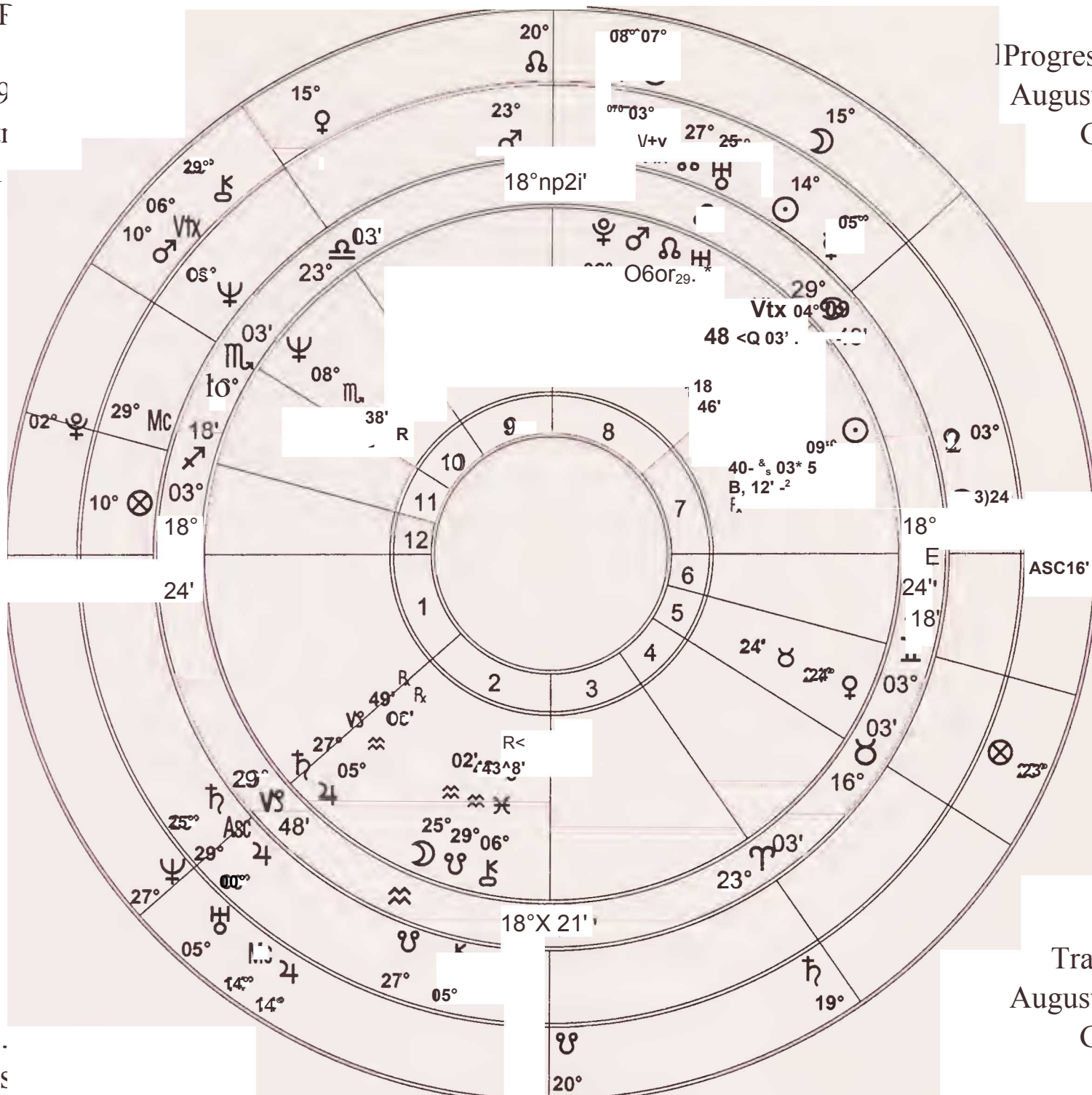


Chart 2.
Princess

conjunction, with Mars ruling the fourth to reflect the circumstances on that fateful house, showing the end of life circumstances. Accidental death, ruled by Mars, focus a spotlight on the natal eighth-house duplicated the earlier potential found in the Mars-Pluto configuration and confirm the eighth house. Uranus in the eighth house worst potential in such a combination. Just appropriately reflected the sudden and a preliminary view of the chart activity unexpected fashion in which Diana shows a heavy departed.

Though an amazing array of descriptive

concentration of planets in opposition from the second and eighth houses. The sign of Leo rules royalty. It is intercepted in the eighth and occupied by several natal, progressed, and transiting planets, which are in conflicting aspect to other points.

Concentrating first on the angular contacts, the progressed Midheaven was forming a square to the natal eighthhouse North Node, a critical factor in that eighthhouse grouping of planets. Opposite the progressed Midheaven is found the fateful degree of the Pleiades at 29 Taurus, also squared to the natal North Node. This degree is frequently associated with tragedy when it becomes a prominent point in the chart. Two other aspects are found in the progressed chart involving the angles. The progressed Ascendant was just past a conjunction with natal Saturn and was conjunct progressed retrograde Jupiter, ruler of the natal Ascendant.

Both Diana's natal and progressed Moon positions are afflicted and, as ruler of the eighth house, transforming events of an upsetting nature become a disturbing and prominent theme. Progressed Uranus, an occupant of the eighth house, opposed the natal Moon, indicating a trend toward separations. Progressed Mars was squared to the progressed Moon, an aspect often found at times of ill health or accidents. Afflicting the Moon, both Mars and Uranus are suggestive of sudden shocks to the nervous system, often brought about by an unexpected accident. On top of this, the progressed Sun in the eighth house was opposed by transiting Uranus, an aspect of

important consequence in the trend of events. A conflicting aspect from transiting Uranus to either of the progressed luminaries indicates a trend toward some misfortune, and also sudden separations and disruptive alterations to the current path.

It is apparent at this point, even before examining the remaining configurations, that trouble was brewing. When the luminaries in the chart are under attack at the same time by several planets, it is often an indication of danger to the very life of the individual. Add to this the troublesome nature of the planets in conflict with the luminaries, as well as similar configurations involving the Ascendant, and the picture worsens. Those are the three primary points of the chart, ruling the physical body, the vitality, and the functioning of the sympathetic nervous system.

In bringing in the transits of the day, those of the North Node are quite notable. Not only is it square to the natal Ascendant, and closing in, but is also closely conjunct progressed Mars. The node with Mars is one of the most notable of any configuration for heralding great activity, often involving force or

conflict. The aspect is also reminiscent of the same aspect in Diana's natal chart and again puts a focus on the patterns found in the natal eighth house. The North Node is, at the same time, *CON*junct the ninth house cusp of long-distance travel, accentuating events to arise in connection with Diana's visit to Paris.

Close aspects from the outer transiting planets are always quite significant, involved in every single major event in life, and Diana's chart was full of them. Transiting Pluto, on the progressed Midheaven, was exactly square natal Mars and in close orb of the Mars-Pluto conjunction, reflecting circumstances and an environment ripe for the natal potential in that pair to manifest. Pluto's transit acted quite effectively as a trigger to set off the natal potential.

Transiting Sun and transiting retrograde Mercury were conjunct with both natal and progressed Pluto and a Solar Eclipse was forming to further stimulate the potential of natal Pluto. Along with the opposition from transiting retrograde Uranus to her progressed Sun in the eighth house was an exact opposition from transiting retrograde Jupiter to the progressed Sun, with Jupiter ruling her Ascendant. Transiting Uranus also triggered an exact opposition from progressed Mercury to natal Jupiter while square to natal Neptune.

Transiting Mars was conjunct Neptune, an illuminating aspect, especially in light of the earlier themes. An aspect of bizarre, out-of-the-ordinary circumstances and associations, it often reflects extreme physical discomfort. Add to this the dual

messages found in transiting retrograde Neptune conjunct the progressed Ascendant and natal Saturn, and the darker side of Neptune surfaces.

Neptune's prominence reveals many of the events that actually took place. It is often involved in travel issues; it rules photographers, alcohol, and darkness, in addition to general intrigue. Both Pluto and Neptune were instrumental in describing the tunnel where the chase and accident took place.

Progressed Venus was conjunct natal Mercury, which was retrograde. This presents a number of likely possibilities. As rulers of the fifth and seventh houses, it indicates that not only was Dodi her lover, but that he might have become Diana's life mate. It reveals the emotional high peak she was experiencing; together, she and Dodi were so wrapped up in one another that they were not aware of the increasingly alarming factors surrounding them just prior to the accident. The unfortunate condition of natal Mercury was an indication of Diana's previous marital unhappiness, as well as a sign that this new relationship was not to be on this plane of existence. The aspect is quite telling of the fact that the two were together at their deaths.

This latter theme is again implied by the position of the transiting Ascendant at the time of the accident. Not only does it fall upon the seventh house cusp, it also shows the exact conjunction of progressed Venus on Mercury to be the next natal configuration to rise, reflecting her travel with a lover. With retrograde Mercury as the next natal planet to rise, the unfortunate condition of the driver of her vehicle, the chase by another vehicle, and the accident are all quite appropriately illustrated.

As noted previously, transiting configurations at the times of important events will often duplicate factors found in the natal chart. In Diana's case, outside of the progressed configurations that were stimulated, Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune were all again retrograde, the Sun and Mercury were again in combust conjunction, and Mars was again in conflicting aspect with the Moon.

The final trigger came from the transiting Moon when it made a conjunction to the progressed Sun. It is likely that this personal New Moon set off the eclipse potential of the following day upon Diana's Pluto. Transiting Venus was nearing the Midheaven of her natal chart, timing exactly the outpouring of love for her from mourners all over the world in the days following her shocking death.

Princess Diana's Mars Return is illustrated in chapter 8.

Hamburger Hill Survivor

The next illustration shows the progressed chart of George, an army sergeant who fought and survived the conflict at Hamburger Hill during the Vietnam War (chart 3). That battle, which is well depicted in a movie by the same name, lasted ten gruesome days and the fatality rate for U.S. soldiers was 70 percent. This particular battle came into prominent public notice due to the extreme conditions under which it was fought, with little promise of success and the waste of so many lives. Not even the president or the United States government had much faith that our soldiers could actually take the hill.

Airlifted by helicopter to the area of the Ashau Valley on May 10, 1969, it took the 101st Airborne Paratroopers, to which George belonged, two days to get up the mountain to the ridge lines where, day after day, they were sent to the mountaintop to come under hostile fire. It was on the fifth day into battle and during one of his many trips up the hill that George met with destiny and experienced an event that would have an everlasting impact.

Four major ridge lines running up the mountain were each manned by a company of U.S. army soldiers. The soldiers were fed eight at a time, up the ridge lines to the top of the mountain. There, the North Vietnamese army was well

prepared, having dug deep tunnels, trenches in opposition, the colonel in charge would not
CENTER

October 18, 1947
Geocentric

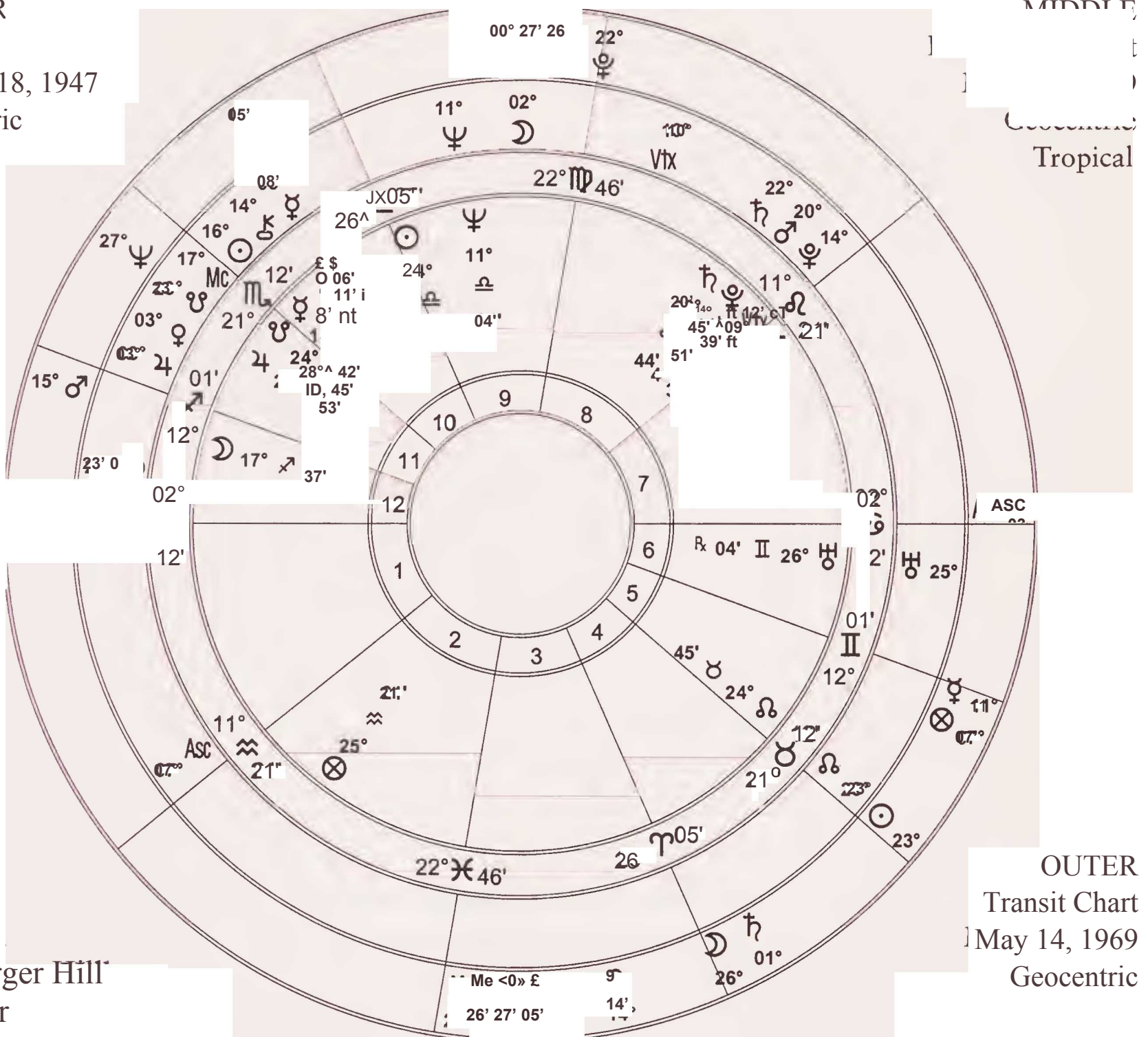


Chart 3.
Hamburger Hill
Survivor

OUTER
Transit Chart
May 14, 1969
Geocentric

and bunkers in the late 1950s in preparation risk relinquishing ground that had been
for war with the French. With claymore gained by calling a halt to the battle. He had
mines, bullets, and rocket-propelled been given an order: “Take the hill.”
grenades, U.S. soldiers were assaulted as Watching most of their friends die,
they approached the enemy. As the first surviving soldiers dubbed it “Hamburger
eight soldiers were slaughtered, they were Hill” on the day they finally took Hill 937
replaced with eight more—fresh recruits on May 20, 1969.
were brought daily to the hill as the battle
raged on. Even in the face of hatred and

Taking a look at his progressed chart, and using the guidelines of interpretation, we see several tight aspects involving the angles of the chart. The progressed Ascendant is square to natal Venus, suggesting a disruption to comfort, happiness, and harmony. George had just left a new bride in the states prior to receiving his orders for the Ashau Valley, also depicted by this aspect.

His progressed Ascendant is square to progressed Mercury, which has become retrograde by progression and suggests just such discouraging news as his orders. Many details are reflected by progressed Mercury's prominence in the chart. With it, George's chart actually reflects the wretched name later given the hill, the adverse media the battle would attract, and his stinging memories of it. Besides ruling service and duty in general, Mercury's aspect further implies difficulty in movement or a lack of freedom of movement within the immediate environment. This was certainly the case, as the soldiers fought in the rain and mud for most of the battle. There were no safe places on the hill and at one point they were even dodging heavy artillery from above, apparently fired by their own military counterparts. In George's chart, Mercury rules the sixth and ninth houses: one associated with his duty in the military services as well as his general health, and the other dealing with experiences encountered during long-

distance travel— all pertinent issues in the current set of circumstances.

Progressed retrograde Mercury is square the radical eighth-house Mars, again indicating conflict in movement, even as it relates to vehicles and obstructions by the various weapons of war. One of George's most nightmarish recollections involves eight helicopters carrying fresh recruits that were all shot down on the same day.

Since progressed Mercury is square the progressed Ascendant on one side and natal Mars on the other, it acts to pull the opposition between the latter two into tighter orb. So, considering an opposition from progressed Ascendant to a natal eighth-house Mars, all of the associations with war, weapons, wounds, and conflict are highlighted. Mars rules George's fourth house of homeland and loyalty to country, as well as end of life circumstances. Although a few favorable contacts verify also his protection and his survival of the ordeal, the Mars aspect reveals the treacherous circumstances in which he found himself.

The progressed Midheaven is conjunct radical Mercury, again ushering in events associated with the sixth and ninth houses, as well as mobility and, as we shall see shortly, George's name in print. The progressed Midheaven is also conjunct the progressed Sun, ruler of George's

natal eighth house. Already prominent by this aspect, the progressed Sun is also within active orb to square radical Pluto. These are very important active aspects and among the most descriptive of the events taking place. The square from the Sun to Pluto reflects the underestimation of effort required to take the hill and it repeats the earlier theme found in the opposition between progressed Ascendant and Mars, indicating forceful physical conflict. Any aspect of the Sun to an angle is a major indicator of important events coming due. Together, the two aspects present the same theme three times over of danger of an eighth-house nature. With the Sun ruling the radical eighth, Pluto as natural ruler of the eighth and positioned there, this square reflects a grim picture. The eighth house pertains to death and rebirth situations as well as the ability to overcome loss. The natal conjunction of Mars and Pluto in that house indicates the demand for just such a transition at some juncture in George's life and current configurations have triggered that potential.

It is interesting to note that had George been elsewhere, say the United States, these configurations would not all have been present at the same time. Mars would not have been angular at all. In addition to the other aspects Mars is involved in, it has also progressed to conjoin natal Saturn, and both are close to squaring the radical Mercury. Saturn occupies the eighth and rules the natal Ascendant, so again there is emphasis on events of a physically dangerous nature.

A protective aspect is the trine from progressed Uranus, ruling the progressed Ascendant, to the natal Sun. A close aspect from the natal chart, it had recently come into active orb and was of great assistance since the Sun rules the vitality and longevity of an individual. The aspect also brings reinforcement into the sixth house of health by Uranus' position there and a Grand Trine includes the Part of Fortune in

George's second house. As ruler of the natal second house, had Uranus also been afflicted, the stress in the eighth would have been further accentuated. At the time of physical demise, there are often afflicting configurations involving both the second and eighth houses. In checking these factors against the natal chart, as the most elevated planet in the chart, George's Sun is well fortified, with assistance from Saturn, Uranus, and the Part of Fortune. The fortunate Uranus-Sun aspect often brings someone temporarily into the life to act as a bridge to personal freedom. This aspect manifested in a rather unusual and literal fashion, as we shall see shortly.

Another fortunate aspect is found in the conjunction between progressed Venus and progressed Jupiter, both sextile

to the progressing Moon. The aspects assure some degree of personal comfort and safety, as well as emphasizing a charitable and sympathetic nature. These, too, will be seen to manifest in the coming events.

The conflicting aspects appear to have predominance at this point, however, and transits have formed to emphasize the prevailing trend. Besides transiting Mars conjunct his natal Moon, transiting Uranus is conjunct the progressed Moon, square the natal Ascendant, and occupies the 0 degree of Libra, an Aries Point degree. As noted earlier, the hard contacts of transiting Uranus to the progressed Moon often reflect a rather major disruption to normal operations. This aspect and the prominence of Uranus in this instance also suggest potential for the body to sustain a debilitating shock to the nervous system. Uranus in an Aries Point degree indicates that the time is ripe for far-reaching events. This is underscored by the nearby transits of the South Node and Jupiter.

Astrologically, it is captivating that transiting Uranus was occupying an Aries Point degree throughout the ten-day conflict. It reflects the battle of Hamburger Hill and is now a part of that page in our history. That several books, movies, and so many pages of our history stem from that one conflict is a perfect illustration of the ramifications and great activity suggested by the occupancy of a planet in one of the Aries Point degrees. The stimulation of these points always implies widespread involvement of those who would normally

remain outside the sphere of interest.

On the morning of the fifth day into the battle, just as he made it over the top of the mountain, past a bunker of dead North Vietnamese soldiers, and approaching the next bunker with rifle aimed, George remembers only a bright blinding flash and then nothing. He next had a vague sensation of floating on waves and, as he regained consciousness, he was aware that a soldier gripped him by the collar and was pulling him down the hill. The sensation of waves was, in reality, the rough terrain he was dragged over. As his eyes gradually began to focus, he saw an enemy soldier taking aim to fire at him and his rescuer. His head dropped against a rock as his buddy fired and shot the North Vietnamese soldier. With the impact of the rock, George's hearing returned and he was once again aware of the sounds of gunshots, explosions, and the ongoing battle.

A claymore mine, hidden in a tree among the thick foliage, had detonated right over him, and though George lived, two nearby buddies were killed. He suffered a massive spray of shrapnel in his neck and chest. It is notable that at the time of the incident, the next natal planet

rising to the Horary Ascendant was Mars, indicating just such a hazardous potential.

Treated briefly and bandaged, George was sent back in to continue fighting. Had it not been for the seventy-pound rucksack that induced profuse bleeding as he carried it, George might have perished, as did the majority of his counterparts. As it was, he had to be removed to a major medical center for further treatment. Here, he survived a ground sniper attack on the hospital barracks in which many were also killed. Helping out the less fortunate, George met an army medical colonel, who had a family tragedy take place in the midst of the aftermath of the attack on the hospital. In sympathy, George went out of his way to help the colonel by making calls and arrangements. Some time later, as George was truck-bound back to the front lines of battle, the colonel saw him and, noticing that his wounds were not properly healed, sent him instead to a convalescence center in Japan.

He was ultimately never sent back to fight in the war and was awarded an honorable discharge.

George was eventually awarded twelve combat medals, including the Purple Heart. Since he was served his military separation papers from the medical center and did not route out through ordinary channels, he knew nothing of most of the medals until several years after the war.

From one perspective, George was

extremely fortunate compared to the majority of his comrades. From another, it may be almost as bad to suffer survivor's guilt and to relive those traumatic days in memory. George's Mars Return is featured in chapter 8.

The Mystery of JonBenet Ramsey

At this writing it has been well over two years since the murder of JonBenet Ramsey. There is not much publicity given the case any longer. The Ramsey's have sold their business and returned to Atlanta. Just after the murder of JonBenet, it was unthinkable that the case would not be solved and wrapped up in a short time. With all the clues provided, including scrapings under her fingernails, a ransom note, and several incriminating pieces of evidence at the scene of the crime, it seemed only a matter of time before a killer would be brought to justice. Now, how many of us think about it at all? It has been forgotten and other events have overshadowed the cut-short life of the youthful princess. The following chart work and observations were noted some four months after JonBenet's death when, with an investigation getting nowhere, a Solar chart was drawn up to see what clues it held. Without a time of birth and no closure to the case, the material presented is speculative.

Solar Chart

Born in Atlanta on August 6, 1990, her Solar chart is quite revealing of both JonBenet's life and death (chart 4). From indications of the investigation, she was murdered in the basement of her home in Boulder, Colorado on December 26, 1996. The time of death was 1:23 P.M., and the cause of death was ligature strangulation according to the autopsy report. The prime suspects were her parents.

For a significant event to take place there must be a minimum of three configurations indicating a similar type of event. This criterion is met and surpassed as indicated by her chart at the time of JonBenet's murder. That a violent end to her life was a possibility is quite evident in her Solar chart, which uses a sunrise time of birth.

JonBenet's Solar chart shows a Grand Cross involving the four angles of the chart. The first and most notable configuration involves the luminaries in opposition across the first and seventh house cusps. Not only was JonBenet born near the time of a Full Moon, but also near the time of a Lunar Eclipse.

According to the *Encyclopedia of Medical Astrology* either of these configurations, if exact, could have detracted from the longevity of her life. A female born at exactly the time of a Lunar Eclipse or Full Moon has less likelihood of living to a mature age and will sometimes perish at the first New Moon following birth. For a male,

the same source states similar themes if born at exactly the time of a New Moon or Solar Eclipse. In that case it is the first Full Moon following birth that could trigger death.

As a matter of fact, this bit of information could be valuable in determining JonBenet's actual time of birth. Such a birth time would have placed transiting Mars on her Ascendant at the time of her death, quite illustrative of her murder. The chart resulting from such a speculative time of birth is presented shortly.

The tight opposition of the luminaries is revealing of quite a number of possibilities in JonBenet's life. Such an opposition sometimes indicates an individual who is prone to panic and sometimes hysteria. Could this have been a factor at the time of her murder? The tape over her mouth is an indication that she needed to be kept quiet and must have been quickly approaching the hysterical stage or was expected to. The attack was likely to have taken place in the basement, far removed from the rest of the household. She would have had to get quite hysterically loud for anyone above to hear.

The same opposition of the Sun and the Moon suggests the possibility that her parents did not get along well. This pair and their occupancy in the relationship houses emphasize such a theme. They may

have been frequently at odds with one it likely was.

CENTER

JonBenet Ramsey

August 6, 1990

Geocentric

Tropical

MIDDLE

Progressed Chart

December 26, 1996

Geocentric

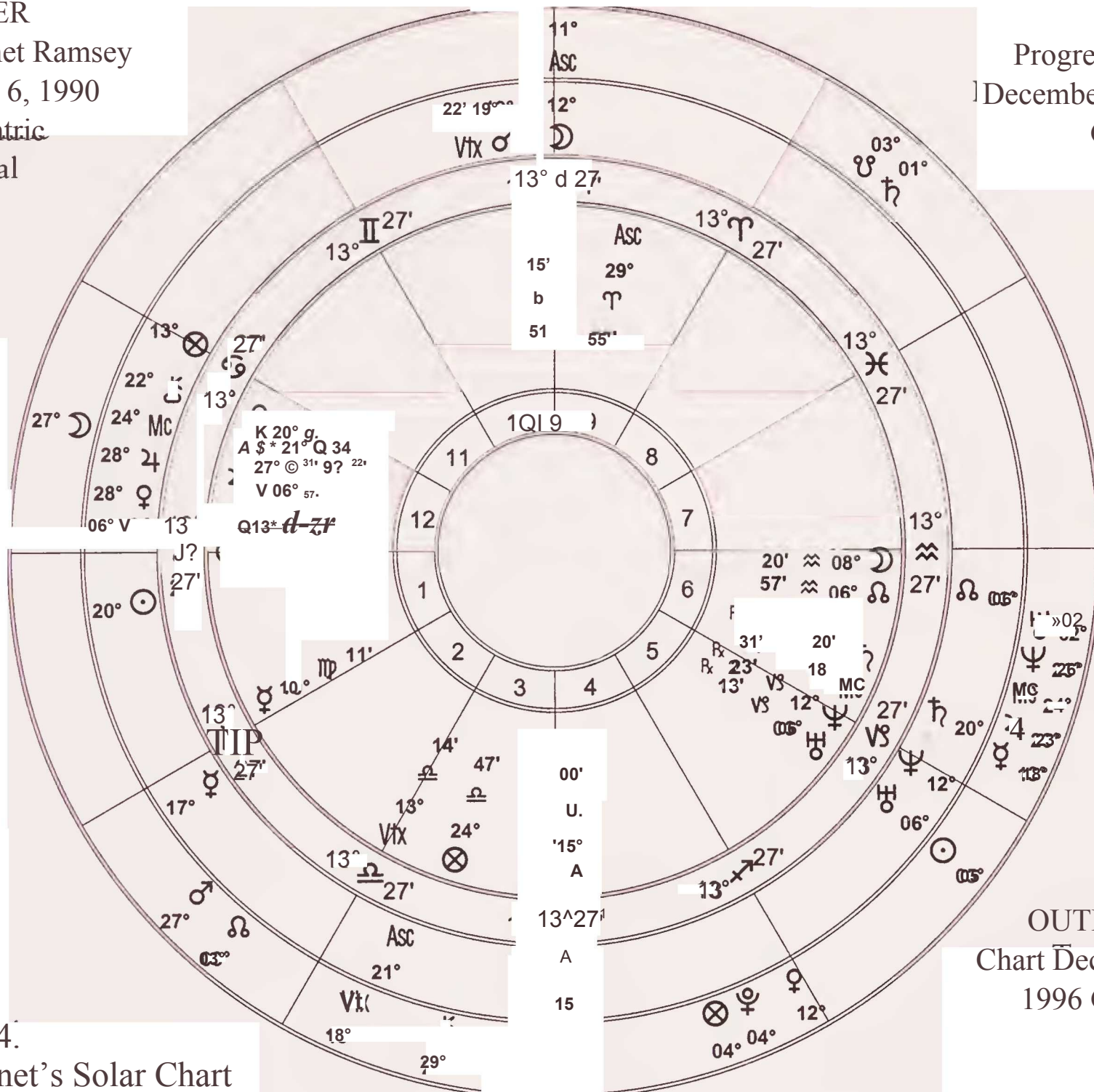


Chart 4.

JonBenet's Solar Chart

another and, as a result, JonBenet experienced inner tension. She reportedly had a bed-wetting problem, which would reflect exactly such tension. However, this same opposition of the luminaries, and the resulting tension from the configuration, frequently acts as a catalyst to remarkable achievement, as it did in JonBenet's short career as a beauty queen, forced upon her as

Square to both of the luminaries and forming their own tight opposition are Mars and Pluto. Lining up on the axis of the fourth and tenth house cusps, the configuration is quite prominent.

The opposition between Mars and Pluto is a violent configuration, sometimes

signaling a tragic death. Mars is the most elevated planet in the Solar chart. Its square to both luminaries is another configuration frequently found when an individual suffers a violent death. There is no assistance to either of the luminaries by a major aspect from any planet. Afflictions to both luminaries, without assistance, can be threatening to the vitality and very life of an individual, especially when an afflicting malefic is elevated above the luminaries. Natal Pluto in the fourth Solar house also suggests a violent end to life, since the fourth house indicates the end of life circumstances.

All of these squares and oppositions are very close. Such tight aspects in the birth chart always manifest while a child is still very young and are determined by the time in which the progressed aspects become exact to trigger the natal potential.

The Sun-Moon Midpoint reveals a child's experience of the parents as a unit. The Sun rules the father and the Moon the mother. In JonBenet's chart, this Midpoint is found to lie very nearly conjunct the degree of Pluto on one side and the degree of Mars on the other, emphasizing the threatening potential in that opposition. JonBenet's experience of her parents might have been one of dominance, a fight for control and power, aggression, and violence.

The Pluto-Moon square is sometimes indicative of a mother who resorts to drastic action to solve problems. A similar aspect was found in little Michael Smith's chart, drowned in a lake by his mother along with his younger brother. It would be an understatement to say that Susan Smith used extreme measures to solve her relationship problems. This particular

square also suggests that JonBenet may have been a victim to someone who was vengeful, stubborn, and possessed strange sexual desires.

Interestingly, Pluto's involvement here does not rule out kidnapping, but rather emphasizes such a theme. However, this is not to say that there was a kidnapper, just that there were implications along those lines via the existence of the ransom note.

The Pluto-Sun square indicates that she was the victim of someone with a volcanic temperament. This square is also an indication of a miscalculation of the effort required to complete a task and may have been a factor at the time of her murder, especially in regards to the length of time from JonBenet's disappearance until the time given by the coroner as her time of death, some nine hours later. This may also have been connected with the ransom note, possibly written during that interval in an attempt to mislead the direction of the investigation until an appropriate solution turned up—but, it never came.

The Sun-Mars square suggests that the men surrounding JonBenet were dictatorial, aggressive, and forceful. These two bodies had progressed to within 1 degree of an exact square at her death, the most important of all the progressed factors in the chart. The configuration offers the clue that it was most likely someone of the male gender who actually committed the murder. Such an aspect is associated with scars and wounds to the body. The several afflictions involving Mars again suggests tempers and the probable quarrelsome activity surrounding her. Both the Mars and Pluto afflictions indicate that JonBenet may have had her own temper at times. The aspects also suggest that she had a way of bringing out the beast in others through no real fault of her own.

The Mars-Moon square shows that JonBenet may have experienced her mother as bossy and quarrelsome, and may have resented her for this. Since the Moon reflects the mother, others may have resented Patsy for an overly competitive attitude.

Using a midday birth time, to more realistically view the probable progressions, in which case the progressed Ascendant should be disregarded, JonBenet's progressed Moon would have just reached the first point in the chart to reinforce and stir up all this hazardous birth potential at the time of her murder. At the very least, it had likely progressed to within the 1.5-

degree orb to square the Sun. Depending upon her actual time of birth, the progressed Moon may have been within orb of all four of the natively afflicted points. In order for this to take place she would have been born from four to nine hours later than the sunrise chart illustrated.

To fulfill the eclipse data indicating a shortened life, she also would have been born about three to four hours later than the Sunrise chart, which would also put her progressed Moon within stimulation of the natal potential. This would put her time of birth in the late morning to early afternoon.

At the time of the murder, taken from the recorded coroner's report, JonBenet's natal Mars was the next planet to rise to the transiting Ascendant. This is predictive of quarrels, accidents, and correctly reflected the attack on her. Mars is usually indicative of a masculine influence, as well. Mars rising also suggests that JonBenet's murder could have been somewhat accidental, occasioned by a rash and uncontrollable temper, had it not been for the long interval between her disappearance and the time of death, which suggests a more Plutonian or determined effort. Quite possibly both these factors were involved in her disappearance and eventual death.

The transiting Ascendant at the time of her death was conjunct her progressed

Moon, suggesting a woman's presence. However, the progressed Moon was also closing in on natal Mars, reinforcing the Grand Cross in her natal chart. This is highly suggestive that two people were involved, both a man and a woman. Things got out of hand, taking a violent turn. The transiting Sun was exactly conjunct her natal Uranus, another clue to how suddenly and unexpectedly events transpired.

The transiting Moon was conjunct her natal Jupiter and progressed Venus. This might also reflect that her mother or a woman was initially trying to act in a protective manner. At the same time, the progressed Moon, reflecting the woman, is involved in several squares to suggest a loss of control, resulting in rash and drastic actions—possibly as a reaction to avoid other types of threats. This is shown in the combinations of the Moon-Mars and the Moon-Pluto. The involvement of the progressed Moon in square to the natal Sun again suggests the conflicting presence of both a man and a woman, and as quite customary at times of major events, recreates a pattern found in the natal chart to bring about events of destiny.

Mercury was retrograde at the time of JonBenet's death, reflecting the difficulties encountered by authorities in gathering evidence about the murder. It reflects the unwillingness of the parents to speak with authorities, and of all the confusion surrounding the ransom note. It also indicates confusion about the exact

whereabouts of certain siblings and family members at the time of the murder. Retrograde Mercury's influence must be considered exemplary in the fact that Patsy gave four handwriting samples, including a left-handed sample.

The Moon was Void of Course at the time of JonBenet's murder. This means it was late enough in a zodiacal sign that it would make no major aspects to another transiting planet before entering the next zodiacal sign. In traditional Horary Astrology, such a Moon reflects a moot chart or one in which a result cannot be found. Is it possible that there will be no conclusion to the matter—that nothing will come of the actions that took place that wintry night in Colorado and that the mystery will go unsolved? As the clock continues to tick these possibilities seem more real than they did in those first days and weeks following the tragedy.

Of particular note is the Solar Eclipse that occurred at 20 degrees of Libra a couple of months prior to JonBenet's death. This was the midpoint of the Venus-Saturn opposition in her natal chart, suggesting the culmination of stress between a young girl and authority figures.

Eclipse Chart

The eclipse on the day of JonBenet's birth occurred at 10:37 A.M., as reflected in the chart shown (chart 5). Such a birth time would have been in agreement with the events that took place. A natal chart for that time shows an eighth house both ruled and occupied by Mars. Mars still holds an elevated position as it afflicts both luminaries. With so many factors of misfortune shown in Mars' position, such a configuration testifies to the violence in connection with JonBenet's death.

The fourth house of her end of life circumstances holds Uranus, indicating an unexpected set of circumstances and a sudden departure. Neptune also occupies the fourth house, suggesting the mysterious nature surrounding her death, the lack of facts, and that the mystery lingers on. Saturn in the fourth points to the involvement of an authority figure at the time of her death and in the very least reflects the suspicion under which her parents have fallen. It also reflects JonBenet's achievements and her heightened professional status, which helped bring the case so prominently into public view. Transiting Mars would have just reached the Ascendant of the chart to indicate triggering events leading to her tragic murder.

While JonBenet was reported missing by her mother at a little after 5:00 A.M. on December 26, it wasn't until 2:00 P.M. that the basement of the home was searched at

the request of officers on the scene. Found there by her father, JonBenet had been dead for less than an hour according to the coroner.

A Tragedy at Columbine High

In a recent edition of *Astrology Today*, the publication by the American Federation of Astrologers, was the birth data for Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, the pair of friends who went on a shooting rampage at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado, on April 20, 1999. Killing or injuring dozens of fellow students, they then turned their guns on themselves.

It's difficult to understand such a senseless tragedy as the one at Columbine High, but numerous clues are found in the secondary progressions (chart 6). Maybe as astrologers we could help prevent such things by seeing the network of energies that might produce such an act by an individual.

In looking at the two charts, it appears evident which boy was the leader and which was the follower in the friendship and especially in the killings. Eric Harris' horoscope was full of hazardous potential and it had been developing toward the dark side from an early age.

Looking first to his natal chart, we find both luminaries afflicted. In fact, the Moon lacks any assisting aspects. Reflecting the sense impressions, the

overall aspects suggest a faulty link fuse blows under the onslaught of

CENTER

JonBenet Ramsey

August 6, 1990

Geocentric

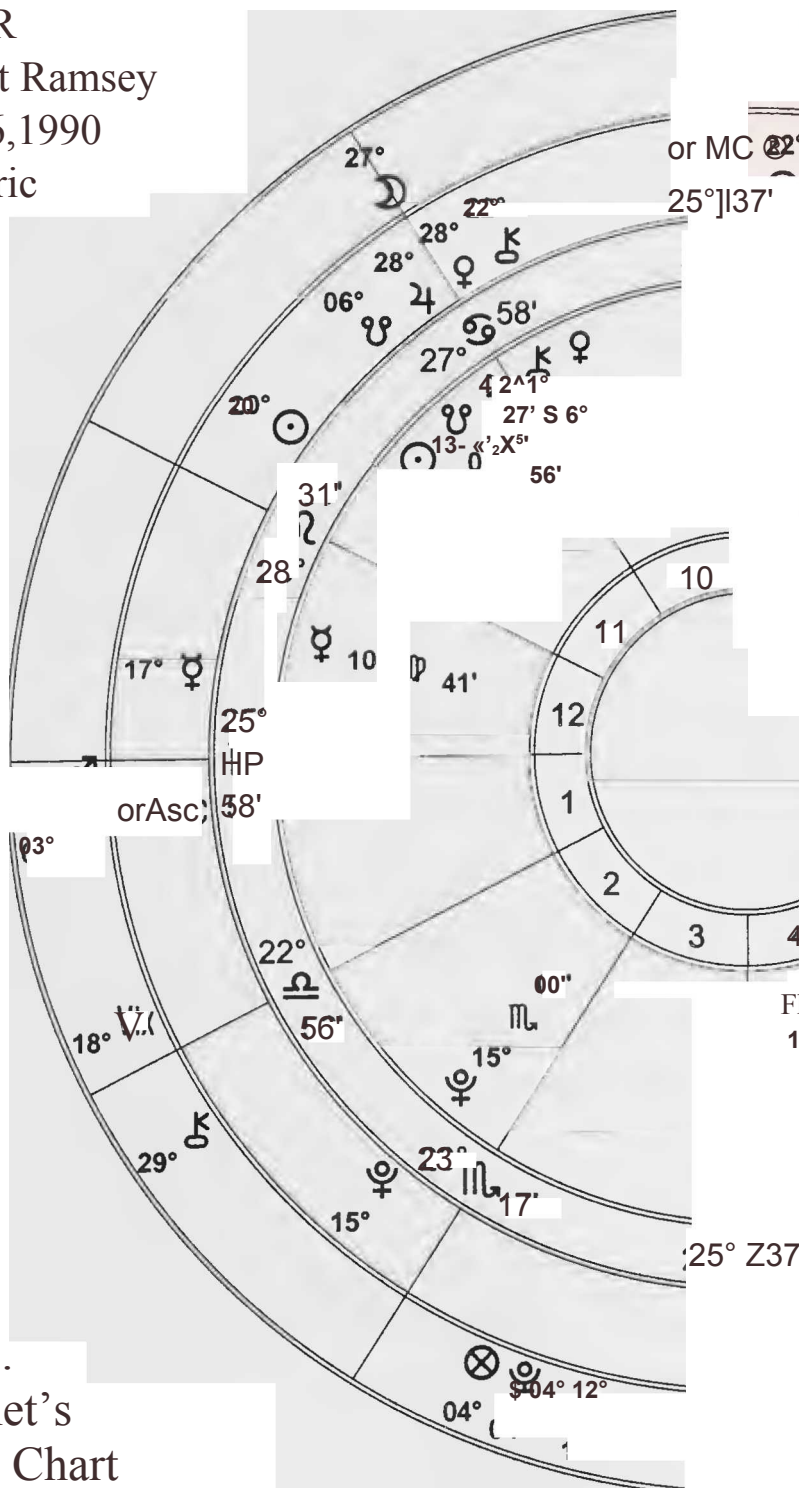


Chart 5.
JonBenet's
Eclipse Chart

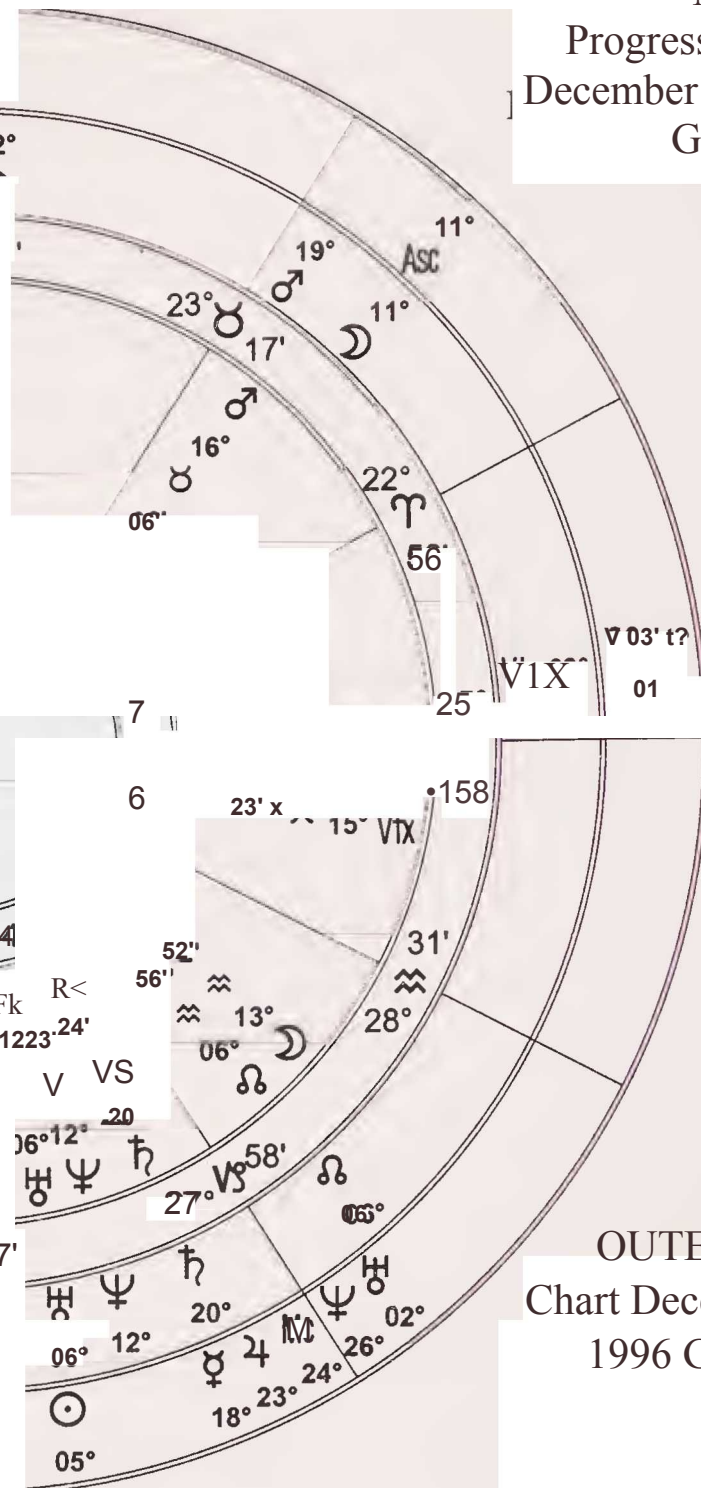
MIDDLE

Progressed Chart

December 26, 1996

Geocentric

Tropical



OUTER Transit
Chart December 26,
1996 Geocentric
Tropic

between the mind and the senses. Outside stimuli were corrupted as they filtered through the senses, before they reached the mind. This is most apparent in the square between the Moon and Mercury, an aspect frequently noted in the charts of those who have had some traumatic experience early in life, abuse for example, in which case a great deal of damage is done to the way one can later assimilate data. It's rather as if a

confusing stimuli. Due to the remaining aspects to this Moon and Mercury, the potential for serious problems emerges in the overall picture.

Eric's chart shows the Moon squared to both Jupiter and Saturn and widely

opposed to Neptune. These aspects reflect women were not good and he was

CENTER
Eric Harris
April 9, 1981
Geocentric

MIDDLE
Progressed Chart
April 20, 1999
Geocentric

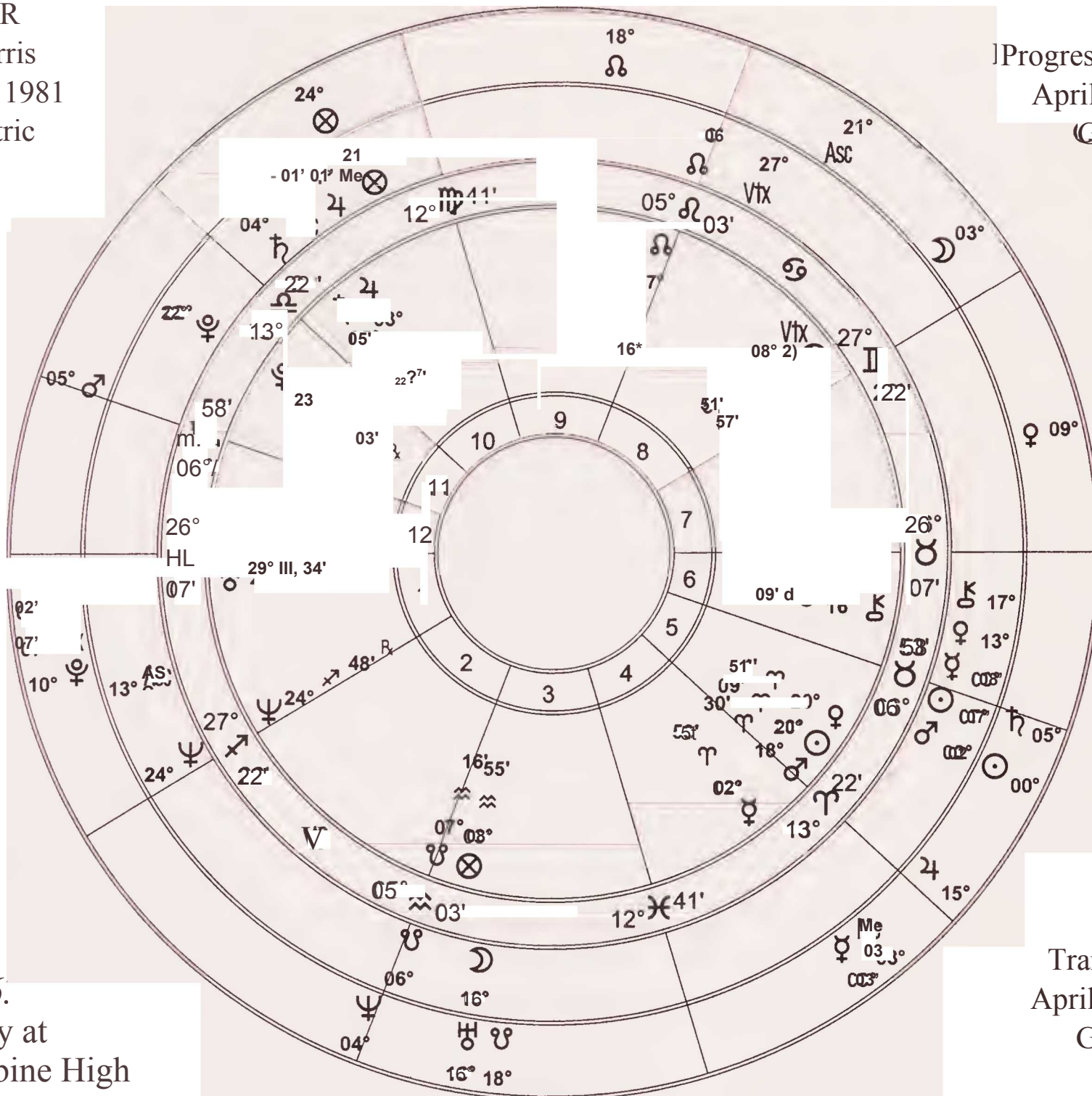


Chart 6.
Tragedy at
Columbine High

OUTER
Transit Chart
April 20, 1999
Geocentric
Tropic

mental confusion, dulled senses, and the unpopular in general, as indicated by the lack of good moral fiber during his aspects.

formative years. Because the Moon also represents the mother, we might suppose that she was somewhat impractical and nagging—not only unable to provide him with the nurturing he needed but possibly contributing to the negative development of his potential. Overall, his relationships with

In noting the remaining aspects to Mercury, governing the mind, dire warnings continue to emerge. Second only to the Moon in sensitivity to the aspects it receives, and already involved

in the critical affliction to the Moon, Mercury is also opposite Jupiter and Saturn. These suggest pretentiousness, bad judgment, evasiveness, or lying, as well as mental depression, fearfulness, negativity, and dark thoughts. The range of aspects implies difficulty in speaking or a speech impediment to the point that on occasion he could be completely unable to speak. A little later, when we look to the progressions and transits of April 20, you'll notice the replication of the Moon and Mercury in their transits, indicating the probability that this is a root source of Eric's overwhelming emotional and mental problems. Such a configuration with attending corroboration might be associated with "lunacy."

The potential for destruction, risk taking, and criminality are found in the next set of aspects most prominent in Eric's chart. The personal planets (the Sun, Venus, and Mars) lie in the fifth house opposite to Pluto, ruler of the chart. Stress to a fifth-house Sun is felt at a very intense level. Both the Sun and this house rule the expression of the ego and blocks to this expression can be so frustrating as to provoke drastic solutions.

In breaking down the aspects to these fifth-house planets, Pluto's opposition to the Sun indicates a love of glory, an overbearing nature, and a tendency to force circumstances. It also shows daring actions and an inaccurate estimate of personal capabilities. The opposition of Pluto to Venus shows a coarse nature, uncontrollable passions, and disappointments in love due to a dictatorial attitude. This aspect has been linked to cases of suicide stemming from unreciprocated affections. This aspect was quite prominent in the progressed chart and the transiting skies at the time of the Columbine shootings.

Mars' close position to the afflicted Sun and Venus in the martial sign of Aries lends

to an overall destructive nature. The opposition of Mars and Pluto is quite treacherous; it is often prominent in the charts of those who commit criminal acts and in the charts of those who die violent deaths. It is an aspect that reflects a test on the evolutionary path to determine whether the personal nature or the spiritual nature is the stronger force. The actions of these individuals have far-reaching consequences, both for themselves and others.

Having examined the natal chart and found the roots of criminal potential, we move on to Eric's progressions and transits for the day of April 20, 1999, in Littleton, Colorado.

As is often the case in such rash events, an unusual amount of stimulation is found in the transits, showing that current environmental and experiential factors were especially aggravating. With the current progressions providing an outlet for the natal potential, they were lethal.

The progressed aspects that have come into active orb include progressed Jupiter on the progressed Midheaven; this was, of course, an afflicted Jupiter, bringing into the limelight the culmination of a grandiose scheme that had long been forming. With the stressful aspects of Jupiter to the Moon and Mercury still within a 1-degree orb, the deficiency of moral fiber and disturbing elements of the psyche have a place to come home to roost. With Jupiter urging expansion, an inability to gain the recognition he felt he deserved would be taken by force. The events that took place show the extreme wastefulness of an afflicted Jupiter.

Notice also that the progressed Midheaven has brought natal Mercury to an angle. Along with giving all that negative potential an outlet, an angular Mercury is often prominent when one's name appears in the headlines through media coverage.

The progressed Ascendant has come to square the natal Midheaven and is attended by transiting Pluto. At the same time, progressed Pluto has come into active orb to oppose the natal Venus. Besides the progressed potential already attending, this particular aspect is quite significant and reveals the major underlying factors at work. The aspect appears in all three charts: the natal chart, the progressed chart, and the transiting chart. The natal potential is provided an outlet in the current conditions and environment (progressed chart) and,

combined with remaining features, the exact transiting opposition of Pluto and Venus bring stimulation. In Eric's case, the extreme conflict with others is met with his most dictatorial and destructive proclivities. Pluto rules the chart and Venus rules the seventh and eleventh houses.

Even though the Pluto opposition to Venus is the key aspect, look at the remaining transiting features. Both of the aspects I refer to as *Red Flag aspects* are seen in transiting Saturn conjunct the progressed Sun and transiting Uranus conjunct the progressed Moon. Either of the progressed luminaries in hard aspect to transiting Saturn or Uranus can show problematic times and turbulence. Eric had both. Transiting Saturn was also conjunct progressed Mars and transiting Mars was in opposition to the whole grouping of progressed planets in Taurus. There were immense blocks to his individuality and his rage had been boiling inside. Transiting Jupiter was conjunct natal Mars, urging the implementation of aggressive action and disregard for the consequences.

This is only a partial summary of the chart for the time of the noted event and many other features could be expounded upon. Notice that both the transiting Moon and transiting Mercury are in their natal positions and duplicating that

square from the birth chart. Even the transiting Midheaven has fallen upon the natal Mercury to show the time Eric would get his notice.

According to an Internet biography on Eric, he had been on the psychiatric medication, Luvox, for depression and obsessive-compulsive disorder, very symbolic of Pluto. He had also faked his suicide some time previously when his girlfriend broke up with him. He had also just been rejected from entering the Marine Corps, a sixth- and eleventh-house subject and highly illustrative of the Aries theme in his chart. The reason for the rejection was the medication he was on and this information had been reported to the authorities by his

parents. He had reportedly quit taking it just a few days before the tragic events at Columbine High.

There are a number of revealing chart links between the two boys, including a Uranus-Ascendant conjunction and a Mars-North Node conjunction. The birth data for Dylan Klebold is September 11, 1981, 9:11 A.M., Mountain Daylight Time, Denver, Colorado.

Note

1. H. L. Cornell, M.D., *Encyclopedia of Medical Astrology*, 3rd ed., rev. (St. Paul, MN: Llewellyn Publications; New York: Samuel Weiser, 1972).

Part Two

RETURNS OF THE LUMINARIES AND PLANETS

Chapter Three

4491

THE RETURNS

Calculation

Whether it is a Lunar Return, Solar Return, or another planetary return, the new chart is calculated based upon the precise time this body returns to its natal position. This represents a new life cycle in relation to the particular planet or luminary. Experiences relating to this planet are reflected in this chart's features. The location should be set for the current place of residence. Use of the Tropical zodiac and Placidus house system is recommended.

The Question of Precession

With nearly any return chart, the question of whether or not to use the precessed method of calculation will arise. This is still a subject of controversy among astrologers. A non-precessed chart is one in which the return chart is calculated for the return of a planet or luminary to the exact degree and minute it held at birth. Precession of a chart takes into consideration the precession of the equinoxes since the time of birth, thus the natal planets and luminaries advance very slightly as one's age progresses. For example, if the Sun were at 2 degrees 16 minutes of a sign

at birth, it might advance to 2 degrees, 56 minutes by middle age. The difference between the Sun's return to the first and last position may be several hours or even a day, altering the resulting chart. The older one becomes, the greater the variance between the two charts. While some astrologers insist on using the nonprecessed method of calculation, just as many are adamant about using the precessed method for greater accuracy. The better computer programs offer both methods of calculation.

A considerable amount of research into the two methods and for every type of return has resulted in some interesting findings. With only one exception, the final conclusion is that one method is just as workable as another, although there is a slight variance in reading them. Unless one has the time and inclination to calculate both charts for the return, it is probably best to just choose one and then stick with it. Familiarity obviously plays a part in the ongoing controversy. While one calculation method results in a chart that some are more in tune with, the other is on a more accessible wavelength to others. One individual may see things from a psychological viewpoint, another may see them from a more material standpoint. When one becomes accustomed to reading one of the chart types, it is sometimes difficult to switch to the other because it necessitates a jump from a psychological view to a more material view or vice versa.

Sufficient evidence suggests that the precessed chart patterns show events as they are experienced on a psychological level while the non-precessed chart patterns present the way they are experienced on the material and earthly plane. In comparing the two methods objectively, it is sometimes the non-precessed that can be easily tuned into and sometimes it is the precessed. In either case, the chart patterns of the alternate chart also reflect accurately upon the events taking place but from a slightly altered perspective.

The two charts are actually in agreement. It is as if one has the advantage of two eyewitness accounts or two expert opinions on an issue. Sometimes, what may not be accentuated in one account is highlighted in the other. An optimum solution is to calculate and use both return charts.

One of the exceptions to this is the Mars Return. Although it is still advisable to use both charts whenever possible, in the majority of cases it is the nonprecessed chart that most clearly reflects events and issues that arise during the Mars Return period. Two possibilities exist for this. Mars is frequently quite physical in nature, and manifests on an intensely material level in which case the non-precessed chart would conform best. The other possible explanation is that the

precise degree held by Mars in the natal horoscope is considered a highly excitable degree, a naturally afflicted point that remains quite in need of direction and control. The non-precessed chart would, in that case, be more revealing of the inherent nature of Mars as it opens a new cycle of experience.

Another suggestion is to use the chart type that most clearly corresponds with an individual's experience of a planet, which would be shown by the natal potential and by past personal history. A natal planet of minimal integration may be experienced at a material level and reflected in the non-precessed chart, while a natal planet of maximum integration is experienced at a more psychological level and reflected in the precessed chart. It is also possible that an individual will find that one chart type works for one particular planetary return while the other more precisely defines events in another.

Personal experimentation and research are urged for each of the luminary and planetary returns, from the Moon through Saturn. In the coming chapters, both chart types will be used to illustrate events corresponding with the return periods.

Converse Returns

The term “converse” refers to an equivalent amount of time to a point prior to birth. This means that for the twenty-fifth birthday, a chart is calculated for twenty-five years before birth, at the precise time that the Sun reaches the degree held at birth. The converse charts are extremely

accurate, even though the outer planets' sign placements may appear rather foreign at first. Still, the major themes produced by the converse return will be in agreement with the themes found in the corresponding forward motion return.

In the converse charts everything is moving opposite its normal direction. Time is moving backward so planets are moving backward unless retrograde, nodes are moving forward, etc. Errors in calculating this return chart can be easily overlooked, and a bit of work may be necessary to calculate and check your work. While Matrix WinStar will calculate converse transits, it will not calculate a converse return. For the first one, say a Solar Return, the astrologer will need to manually figure the converse year by subtracting the current age of the subject from the year of birth. Enter a date following that birthday and then request the last Solar Return. This should be the right chart, but to be sure, use the search feature to calculate the converse transits for that year near the birthday to see if the planetary positions match those in the return. Once on the right track, subsequent charts will go backward in time, one year at a time.

The same basic method is used to calculate the converse Lunar Returns. The thirteen converse Lunar Returns for the period would be calculated from the same start date and going backward in time.

The Composite Return

Between the pair of forward motion returns, precessed and non-precessed, and the pair of converse returns, precessed and non-precessed, there are four possible chart results for any planetary or luminary return. By choosing one of the Solar Return variations, say the precessed direct motion, and the thirteen corresponding Lunar Returns to follow, an astrologer has the tools with which to predict events for the year. Of course, if one has the time and inclination, all four variations of the Solar Return and a total of fifty-two Lunar Returns for each year can be used to have a real leading edge!

Watch for similar themes appearing in the four corresponding charts in order to arrive at a composite reading. This might be through angular planetary placements, sign occupancy, or planetary aspects. Take the following illustration: one Lunar Return has an angular Mars square Moon, another shows a sixth-house Mars in Virgo; in another the natal sixth house is rising; and the final chart shows Mars on an angle and squared by Neptune. All of these suggest a possible health issue and one that is relatively minor unless there are additional signatures, such as Pluto or Saturn in

square to the Sun.

Similar to the basic progressed rule of three configurations of a like nature to predict an event, there is always corroboration among the charts to reflect the most important issues at hand.

Location and Relocation

The residence at the time of a return is used for the return chart calculations. If relocation takes place during the return period, the chart should likewise be recalculated using the new place of residence. This is not necessary if the new location is temporary, such as a vacation or short stay away from home.

For instance, if relocation takes place, over which Mercury holds partial dominion, the Mercury Return must be recalculated for the new residence, especially if the new location is of a significant distance from the old. The relocated chart will realign the house cusps for the duration of the return period, and Mercury will often be brought onto an angle to show an influx of activity. This is in keeping with the natural order of the Mercurial activity associated with a move. The relocated chart may also show a shift of active periods, say from the beginning of the return period to the middle by a new accentuation of the return planets in the angular, succedent, or cadent houses. These shifts of planetary energy also

accurately reflect upon the resultant activity associated with a move and are covered fully later.

With a planetary return such as Jupiter, which lasts for twelve years, it is especially important to recalculate the return chart for the new residence. While the planetary contacts made by Jupiter still manifest in much the same manner, the house cusps of the new chart become more precise, affecting timing and accurately reflecting the issues signified by Jupiter's transits. The new chart takes over coincident with the time of the relocation.

Unique Returns

Before exploring each of the major planetary returns at length, a few specialized returns bear looking into. While these are not covered in this work, they are introduced here for optional follow-up. The same basic principles covered can be applied to their interpretation.

The Anlunar

A variation of the Lunar Return is the *Anlunar*. The Anlunar is the monthly return of the Moon to the place it held in the previous Solar Return, so the name comes from a shortened version of "Annual Lunar." With this type of Lunar Return, there is a different Moon each year and it is monitored instead of the natal Moon. The chart is read like the Lunar Return, but with a heavier emphasis on aspects made to the

Moon. The house held by the Moon and the house it rules in the return chart should be regarded as special areas of increased concentration and activity. The areas of life corresponding to these houses are interconnected for the time period, sometimes to a profound degree. If the Moon is angular or rules an angular house, the time period is likely to be more climactic. The rulers of the angular houses should next be considered, and finally, the aspects formed between Anlunar planets and Solar Return planets and points.

The date of an Anlunar often coincides very closely with the most momentous date for any given month, thus proving that this particular cycle within the Solar Return period is an important one. In fact, as far as reflecting a monthly point of climax, the date of the Anlunar is frequently more noteworthy than the date of the return of the Moon to its natal position. The easiest way to calculate the Anlunar is to prepare the Solar Return as if it were a natal chart and then run Lunar Returns on it. Use the triwheel chart to easily find outstanding connections between the Solar Return, the Anlunar, and natal placements. Precession is not necessary with the Anlunar.

Annual Sunrise/Monthly Moonrise
Many individuals find that a particular time of the year tends to be accentuated

year after year. Maybe there is a general feeling of renewed energy or it just feels like the beginning of a new cycle. In this case it may be the *Annual Sunrise* cycle that the person is in synchronicity with. This is also an annual cycle, but if the Ascendant and/or its ruler are more prominent than the Sun, this chart might be considered an appropriate alternate yearly return to the Solar Return. Calculated for the exact return of the Sun to the natal Ascendant, the Annual Sunrise chart patterns show the environmental conditions and spiritual climate for the upcoming year. A great many similarities exist between this and a Solar Return, but since the Ascendant is a personal area, akin to lunar elements, the scope of influences found in this chart may be even broader. The offspring, or compliment, to the Annual Sunrise chart are the thirteen subsequent *Monthly Moonrise* charts, calculated for the time the Moon reaches the Ascendant each month. The chart series may be interpreted using the same basics applied to Solar Returns and their subsequent Lunar Returns.

Annual New Moon/Monthly New Moon

There is also an *Annual New Moon*, and this chart is calculated for the time the Sun returns to the natal Moon. Just as the transiting monthly lunation provides insights about upcoming activity, accentuating matters related to the natal

house in which it falls, the Annual New Moon chart is considered a personal lunation, providing information about the coming year. The compliment to this return is the *Monthly New Moon*, calculated for the time the Moon reaches the natal Sun each month. If the Moon is strong or dignified, this may be an especially appropriate return series.

Take a look at the natal chart to find the main planet or point of prominence. This will be a good indicator of the particular cycle with which a subject is in unity. Any planet situated exactly on the Ascendant would emphasize the Annual Sunrise, while a planet in near-perfect conjunction with the Moon would accentuate the Annual New Moon.

The Diurnal Chart or Daily Return

A *Diurnal* is a figure of the transits for a particular day, but because it is calculated using the natal birth data, the chart functions as a personal daily horoscope. This figure shows stimulation to natal potential as it is brought to the foreground for this one day. Calculated properly and focusing upon exact aspects, this chart could be used as a final test for timing an event date perfectly.

To calculate the Diurnal, use exactly the same data from the birth chart, except change the date to the date in

question. An easy way to see if the chart has been calculated correctly is to check the position of the Sun. It should remain at about the same house position as at birth and about the same distance from the Midheaven as the natal Sun was distant from the natal Midheaven.

If living in a different location than at birth, the Diurnal should be calculated for the new location. In that case, the birth time must be adjusted to the time zone of the new residence by adding or subtracting the appropriate number of hours to or from the hour of birth, but retaining the minutes. So, you would calculate the chart for the date in question, the city of the new residence, and the time birth would have taken place in that city. In these calculations the Sun will have a greater variance of house position from that at birth. As with progressions and returns, the relocated chart produces the most accurate reading for the day in the new residence.

The Diurnal figure must be based upon the natal chart, and it's best to also consider the current progressions. The natal planets and points, as well as the most prominent figures from the progressed chart, can be inserted upon the Diurnal for the most accurate interpretation. Using WinStar or a program with similar capabilities, run a tri-wheel chart with the daily chart in the inner wheel, the natal chart in the center, and the current progressions in the outer wheel to see all the connections easily. To simplify, a bi-wheel could be used with the natal chart outside the daily horoscope. Using features in Matrix WinStar Plus, a whole

Introducing the Returns

year of Diurnal charts can be calculated at once. They can then be viewed quickly for any date with the natal chart in the background to see the changing house cusp degrees and both the daily and the natal planetary movement through the Diurnal.

The Diurnal, also referred to here as the *daily chart*, can be used to pinpoint eventful days, but because the chart is temporal in nature, only exact aspects can be counted on to reflect actual events. Keeping that and a few specific guidelines in mind, the Diurnal can be interpreted like a return chart, except it is just for one day.

Beginning on the birthday, the Diurnal has the same Ascendant as at birth if living in the birth location. If living in a new area from that at birth, the Diurnal Ascendant on the birthday will have the Ascendant of the relocated nativity. From there, the Diurnal Ascendant inches through the zodiac, at the rate of 1 degree per day.

The ruler of the Diurnal Ascendant is Lord of the chart, and the precise aspects it forms to other daily planets or to natal planets are the main focus. As commander, contacts made by the ruler of the Diurnal to other bodies, transiting or

Introducing the Returns

natal, show the general theme for the day and the same planet will rule the Diurnal chart for a period of a few weeks. The exact aspects formed by the ruler change from day to day. Unless there are significant issues to surface for the day, there may be no exact aspects to this ruler. Also, as a general rule, the natal house that corresponds with the Diurnal Ascendant is an area of special attention for a few weeks.

This explains some of the patterns of activity that are noticeable year after year. If living in the same area for a number of years, the same planet rules the daily chart during the same time period each year and, while a general theme of activity is noticeable, the aspects the ruler makes to the other transiting planets will vary. For example, with Leo rising and the Sun as ruler, the Sun makes the same aspects to natal planets about the same day year after year, but the aspects it makes to the other transiting planets will always be different, so there are endless variations in the particular energy for that date from one year to the next. Taking this example a step further, during the month or so that Leo is ascending in the Diurnal, the exact aspects received by the natal Sun from daily transiting planets are just as important as those aspects formed by the daily Sun. Essentially, the Diurnal has two rulers: the daily transiting ruler and the natal planet that rules the current Diurnal Ascendant. Precise aspects to either one are indicators for the day and begin the chart interpretation.

The planetary rulers, of course, each have their own way and pace of handling things. Fast-moving rulers, like Mercury or Venus, initiate lots of contacts, bringing activity, social opportunities, meetings, and

related events. Unless afflicted, perhaps by an outer daily planet during its run as Lord of the chart, these are easy and pleasant times in general.

Then, there are rulers like Saturn that bring discipline and responsibilities. Saturn is there to get organized and ready for business. The way he sees it though, we are already behind and may not be ready to initiate new contacts. Traveling slowly in his transit, he generally makes fewer daily contacts, though in some instances he will be in aspect to another planet for the entire length of time he is the chart ruler. Mars or Pluto as ruler generally hopes to initiate new enterprises and is usually more dynamic and forceful.

Of course, when the Moon rules the chart, depending upon the house of the natal chart it rules, there is exceptional potential for major fluctuations from one day to the next as the Moon travels the chart quickly and forms completely new aspects every day. This may be one of the busiest times of the year, especially in regard to the affairs of the natal house

that has Cancer on the cusp. *Introducing the Returns* With either of the Moon rules daily fluctuations and changes. The Moon in aspect to the Diurnal ruler within 1 degree is quite significant and exemplary in showing the tone of mood for the day.

Angular planets in the Diurnal are of special importance; these include any planet, daily or natal, that falls precisely upon the cusp of the first, fourth, seventh, or tenth houses. The bodies crossing the Ascendant or Midheaven in particular, whether a daily planet or a natal planet, reveal major issues. The presence of a traditional malefic on one of the angles is sometimes indicative of a disturbance, especially if in stressful aspect to another transiting planet or to a natal planet. If the daily Sun, Moon, or Mercury lies on one of these angles in afflicted aspect, it is also likely to be a sign of some disturbance. This is also true of the radical Sun, Moon, or Mercury if afflicted in the natal chart and falling upon an angle of the Diurnal.

The contacts to the angles by Jupiter or Venus reflect advantages, unless they are very afflicted. Likewise, the Sun, the Moon, or Mercury produce benefits when falling on the angles if there are no afflictions to them. Benefits are also produced from the natal Sun, Moon, and Mercury upon one of these angles unless they are much afflicted in the birth chart.

The aspects of the daily Moon must be considered in regard to its house position and the house(s) occupied by the planets in aspect. For example, a conjunction of the Moon to Mars in the second house may indicate impulsive spending. Exact aspects of the Moon furnish good information as

Aspects formed by the daily transiting planets to natal planets may go by unnoticed unless one of the planets involved in the aspect happens to be the ruler of the Diurnal, or unless one of the planets is angular in the Diurnal, or forming an exact aspect to a Diurnal angle. So, if Venus is the daily ruler with transiting Venus making no aspects, an aspect received by natal Venus from any other planet is still notable for the day. In some instances a planet that is not angular itself will still form an exact aspect to an angle, also noteworthy.

In summary, the major effects are shown in the movement of planets across the angles of the Diurnal, with priority given to the aspects of the chart ruler; next, the conjunctions that are formed to the daily Sun; then, the mutual aspects and conjunctions of the planets; and last, to the aspects formed by the daily Moon to the other daily planets.

This Daily Return is useful for finding relatively minor events as well. A planet falling on a non-angular house cusp, whether a natal or daily planet, describes

much about the affairs of that house for the day. Planets in the Diurnal are quite sensitive to house position changes as well, whether a natal planet or a daily planet. A shift in the appropriate planetary energy is usually noticeable on the very day a planet moves from one house into another.

Making use of special points such as the Aries Point degrees or the degree of the Pleiades furnishes essential information should they occupy a cusp. Similar to the progressed chart, there must be corroborating evidence throughout the chart to produce a large-scale event. Simply having a malefic on an angle, with nothing more to substantiate a problematic theme, will produce a relatively minor event. For example, with Pluto on an angle, there may be a minor breakdown or repair issue at most.

The Part of Fortune seems to play quite a dynamic role in the Diurnal, especially for propitious events. Because the Diurnal is so transitory, distinctive focus is furnished from a quick-moving significator like the daily Part of Fortune.

As an example, on the day of an announced promotion for an individual, Uranus as chart ruler was on the daily Ascendant. This degree was the third point in a Grand Trine involving both the natal and the progressed Part of Fortune. The Daily Part of Fortune was conjunct a natal sixth-house Moon, indicating positive changes in the work place. The daily nodes also accentuated the Ascendant-Descendant positions with the North Node on the seventh house cusp. Agreement of benefits forthcoming was found by the Diurnal Sun

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conjunction to progressed Jupiter on the progressed Midheaven. Daily Pluto in the tenth house suggested a change of status; Venus highlighted benefits surrounding the job and workplace by its position in the sixth house while also within orb of conjunction to the North Node, an exceptionally positive connection. In this case, the individual worked in the field of publishing, and astrology in particular, so the prominence of Uranus as chart ruler and the contact to Jupiter by the Sun was especially reflective of the career-related event.

Testimonials on each of the planets, collected from individuals as they reflected daily activity by their prominence in the Diurnal, follow.

Mercury Variables

“On a day when Virgo was on the Diurnal Ascendant and Mercury ruled the chart, my own Mercury squared each of the angles from the fourth house cusp. Daily Mercury squared the daily Moon. I realized later that I had spent that whole day tediously organizing files in my den!”³⁹ V. F.

“On the day that natal Mercury crossed the Diurnal Ascendant, it was squared by the daily Sun. Neptune squared the chart ruler and natal Saturn fell on the Midheaven. News came that my husband’s elderly aunt had passed away.” C. H.

The Beauty of Venus

“I work for myself and on the day my natal Venus crossed the Midheaven of the Diurnal, lots of payments came in the mail. Jupiter was ruling the Diurnal and it also formed a sextile to daily Venus.” D. S.

“I will have natal Venus on my Diurnal Ascendant and daily Venus trine my Neptune, then conjunct my Mars when my boyfriend comes home for a visit, the first visit in awhile. It seems to me the Diurnal chart is the chart that tells all.” P. P.

Mars Madness and New Enterprise

“On the day that Mars, ruler of the Diurnal, formed a square to my own Mars while both were angular, an incident occurred that left me steaming mad all the way into the next day. As the aspect passed, I realized I’d made much of nothing and felt no need to stay angry.” R. D.

“On the first day that Mars became my Diurnal ruler, each of the angular

houses of the daily chart had the first degree of the cardinal signs on the cusps (Aries Point degrees), indicating a potentially important day. As ruler, Mars formed a sextile to the daily Moon while opposing natal Mercury. During a busy day of house hunting, my husband and I found just the house we wanted to buy, for which we’d been looking for some time.” R. S.

“Scorpio is currently on my Diurnal Ascendant and when Mars, the Lord of the Ascendant (I prefer the old rulers), came to the square of my natal Moon and opposite my natal Jupiter, I got a flu shot which left my arm red, puffy, sore, and itchy . . . something I’ve never gotten from a flu shot before.” G. C.

Jupiter Benefits

“On the day that Jupiter was conjunct the daily Descendant, I had a very pleasant first date with someone I had recently been introduced to.” G. C.

“When natal Jupiter crossed my Diurnal Ascendant, it was an exceptionally good day, with several benefits produced: news, contacts, etc.

Several open agreements were completed, all to my delight. ” A. S.

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appointment. Blood work was done and it was a couple of days before I got the results. “ T. K.

Saturn Sobriety

“When my natal and then my progressed Saturn came to the Diurnal Ascendant, it was a generally frustrating few days when I slightly strained my lower back doing a weight-training exercise incorrectly; had to cancel a few appointments and then got a call from a friend to come pick him up the city jail for driving on a suspended license (unpaid traffic tickets, not DWI)β G. C.

Uranus Breakthroughs

“For the entire twenty-two days that Uranus was my Diurnal chart ruler the theme was one of unexpected connections and unusual coincidences. Several individuals I met seemed to have a specific and timely purpose for entering my life just when they did and it was an exciting few weeks in general. Many of my routines were uprooted but, in a way, that was a refreshing change. While daily Uranus was in good aspect to my natal Neptune the whole time, natal Uranus was receiving a sextile from daily Jupiter when the two most unusual connections were made. ” P. C.

Clouds of Neptune

“When natal Neptune passed over the Diurnal Midheaven, I had a doctor's

“On the day that my Neptune was conjunct the Diurnal Ascendant, the chart ruler Venus was square daily Mars and I got a little tipsy at a party and a hangover as the result.” B. B.

Pluto Changes

“A few weeks ago when daily Pluto was conjunct my Diurnal Ascendant I was curious as to what it might bring, if anything out of the ordinary. I got through almost the entire day with nothing Plutonian occurring until I had to pick two friends up from the airport in the evening. On the way home on the highway I got a big blowout in one of my tires! Fortunately, one of my friends had his cell-phone with him, so it was no big deal to call AAA and get it changed. I was thankful that it didn't happen on the way TO the airport, plus, even though it was a nuisance, I took a secret delight in seeing the manifestation of Pluto for the day.” G. C.

“Just looked ahead and on the day that ^{Introducing the Returns} planetary function. we had hoped to move, Mercury is the Diurnal ruler with Gemini rising. Natal Pluto lies exactly on the fourth house cusp; perfect for a move. Then, daily Venus crosses natal Pluto on the fourth cusp and lingers there on the cusp for several days; exactly the days Pd planned to decorate. R. S.

As in any other kind of chart, for an actual event to occur, it will be suggested several times in the chart. Separate configurations will suggest a similar theme. Keeping a journal, recording daily happenings along with prominent Diurnal connections are an excellent means to increase one's ability to distinguish the significance of aspects in the Diurnal or in any kind of chart.

As an additional note with respect to finding the day of an event, the Diurnal chart reflects happenings for a twenty-four-hour period. If the birth time, the foundation for the Diurnal chart, is in the late P.M. hours, the activity indicated for the date will generally take place the following day.

Planetary Returns

Most are quite familiar with the returns of the luminaries, or the Solar and Lunar Returns; however, these are only the beginning when it comes to making accurate predictions. Each planet has a specific function and the return cycle of a planet provides an up-to-date and detailed map of an evolving life pattern relative to that

In many cases, an individual is just as receptive to the vibrations of a prominent planet in the natal chart as to the Sun. The Sun, of course, is the most vital factor in the chart, but a planet situated on the Ascendant and in prominent aspect would greatly augment the findings in the Solar Return if its return cycle were also monitored. Individuals vary in exactly the vibrations they are in tune with. An individual born strongly under the rays of any planet will always flow to the vibratory rate of that planet. That's why physical appearance, personal mannerisms, and outlook can always be traced to the exact combination of factors influencing the Ascendant while ego needs are reflected in the Sun, its house, sign, aspects, and attending characteristics. The Sun sign ruler and the ruler of the Ascendant also have the potential to accurately reflect important cycles in one's life. Unless the planet is beyond Saturn, in which case a return is not a realistic approach, its return is fairly assured to reflect upon important personal events. The planetary returns of Jupiter and Saturn are quite magnificent in the way they reflect turning points for everyone!

In addition to showing the upcoming trend of events relative to a return planet,

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the planetary return chart also makes an excellent reference point for timing specific peaks in activity. Significant events can usually be timed to within one day of their actual manifestation along with details surrounding the event. This is accomplished by tabulating the transit of the return planet through the return chart. If it is a Venus Return, the transit of Venus through the Venus Return chart should be watched. If it is a Jupiter Return, Jupiter's transit through the Jupiter Return chart should be observed. Activity associated with the return planet will transpire when it makes transiting contacts to planets and points within the return chart. Activity associated with the planet increases markedly as it crosses an angle of the return chart. With the outer planetary returns, these angular transits coincide quite remarkably with major life turning points. The planetary return charts can be used to plan appropriately and for troubleshooting. They can be used separately and/or in corroboration with other returns.

These features of the planetary returns make them excellent tools for increasing the accuracy in forecasting and ideal when paired with the progressed chart. Although the progressions set the stage with the props, players, and backdrop, there are multitudes of factors to consider in ascertaining the exact date that an event will transpire. Even with careful tabulation of the transiting planets upon the progressed chart, the event often falls a few days off the selected date. This problem can be eliminated when the proper planetary return chart is utilized. By selecting the specific return representative of the coming event in question, it usually becomes a simple one-step procedure to find the date the event will take place. At worst, two separate planetary returns may need to be accessed if the event in question embodies factors represented by multiple planets.

Another way to determine which return chart holds the answer one is seeking can be found directly from the progressed chart. If one planet becomes heavily involved in aspects, of either a fortunate or unfortunate nature, the individual is approaching events in keeping with the

nature of that planet and the area of the natal chart it rules. Checking the planetary return of such a stimulated planet will generally reveal important transiting aspects forming in the return. Utilizing the planetary returns in this manner pays off immediately in the rate of accuracy as well as in the obvious benefits of wise planning.

It may seem somewhat incredible that the transit of a planet through the return chart provides better timing for events than its transit through the natal chart— unless one is aware of life cycles and changing circumstances. The new cycle and unique conditions are found within the return chart.

Multiple Returns

Occasionally, a planet begins a retrograde cycle just after returning to its natal position. In this case, an individual will have a planetary “return” three times within a short period. The mere fact that the retrograde phenomenon is taking place near the time of the return suggests that the individual is already deeply involved and concerned with issues represented by that planet. Each of the returns is an accurate reflection of events taking place during the time it is in effect. The next return of the planet, whether from a retrograde transit or by direct motion shows how things are progressing and events to follow will be accurately reflected in the new chart. This phenomenon is dealt with in greater depth in the individual chapters covering the planetary returns.

Combining and Progressing Returns

If awaiting the outcome of some major project or issue, check to see if there are correspondences among the return charts. Look first to the planetary return that most accurately reflects the project or issue. When a major event is coming due, the date will usually be revealed in two or more planetary returns. For example, the date that Jupiter transits the Midheaven of the Jupiter return chart might be the same date that Saturn forms an important contact in the Saturn return. Thus, this is the date to anticipate some rather exceptional results!

A similar method can be applied to find major events that will affect two or more

people. Married couples or family members will often have matching configurations and sensitive degrees in each of their individual returns of a particular planet. Quite remarkable in the Jupiter and Saturn returns, these duplications indicate events with far-reaching effects. Assessing the two charts reveal important dates and the likely events to prepare for.

A technique that can be applied to any of the return charts, but with excellent results on the Jupiter and Saturn Returns, is that they can also be progressed! Since these particular returns are of rather long duration, the progressions are considerable. For this, the return chart itself is set up as if it were a natal chart and then progressions and transits can be applied to find important links. For this type of progressed chart to be reflective of current trends in line with the planet in question, there may only be one or two exact aspects, which clearly depict coming events. It’s an excellent tool for crosschecking.

Another technique that can be applied to most of the returns is to calculate the position of the progressing Moon. For most purposes, it is safe to figure this movement at approximately 1 degree per month. This position of the

Moon comes in especially handy for timing planetary energy as it accurately reflects if it reaches an angle or con- juncts another the nature of events taking place. The planet.

Return Basics

There are a few basic guidelines for reading any return chart. Although they are read in exactly the same manner as a natal horoscope, the return is of shorter duration. Whereas the potential shown in a natal horoscope has an entire lifetime to develop to maturity, the potential in a return chart reaches maturity by the conclusion of the return period. The return period is entirely dependent on the planetary return in question. A Lunar Return lasts only twenty-eight days; therefore, the potential will show fruit within the twenty-eight-day period. At the other extreme, a Saturn Return occurs only once every twenty-nine years, so the patterns in that return can be observed to reflect major turning points for the long haul.

A point worth repeating in regard to interpreting a return chart is that the astrologer should be familiar with the major themes within the progressed chart for the period in question. Planets, signs, and houses are each key in a variety of issues, people, and events, and without a familiarity of the progressed themes, the key planets in a return can be more easily misjudged.

The angles of the return chart show points of energy manifestation, so planets on the angles of the return chart are quite dynamic, whether a natal or return planet. The return period will see a release of the

planetary energy as it accurately reflects the nature of events taking place. The subsequent transit of the return planet or luminary across the angles tends to trigger events, especially dynamic if also contacting one or more angular planets at the same time.

The first natal planet to rise to the return Ascendant is nearly always quite explanatory of the trend relating to the issues and events signified by the return planet. This is similar to the indicators shown by the Horary Ascendant and the first natal planet to rise to the transiting configurations in the progressed chart. This natal planet testifies to the type of activity coming due.

These are covered in quite some detail in my earlier work, *Predicting Events with Astrology*, so they will be touched on only briefly here. The Moon signifies fluctuations, usually involving travel, or sometimes a move. The Sun is protective in nature and may be regarded as an indicator of opportunity, advancement, or honor. Mercury could signify travel and may also show involvement with young people, close relatives, or important decisions and agreements. Venus is fairly protective and guarantees benefits. It may show activity surrounding young women or

their concerns. Mars sometimes indicates new enterprise or more usually conflict, even to the degree of foretelling an illness or accident.

Jupiter usually shows benefits, often through connections with those of high honor and standing. It may be regarded as a sign of protection and/or fortune in the immediate future. Saturn usually shows some delays at hand, but just as often reflects an individual practicing great self-discipline, which leads to some degree of accomplishment as it relates to the return planet. It does sometimes warn of frustrating barriers or the disappointing outcome of current activities. Basically, one is urged toward a more practical view and approach. Uranus signifies an unexpected turn of events, which may turn out to be a great opportunity or the reverse. Other chart indicators must be referred to.

Neptune suggests the dissolving of old connections and the forming of new ones. On one hand, it may show intrigue, clouds of confusion, misrepresentation, or deceit, and, on the other hand, the ultimate realization of dreams. It is a neutral planet and the overall configurations will indicate whether to anticipate its bright or dark side. Pluto suggests power and control issues, is sometimes an indicator of financial or support issues, and frequently reflects obsessive behavior. These planetary functions will pertain to the issues and events governed by the planetary return in which they are first to rise.

Because it is the return of a planet to its natal position, the condition and potential of that planet in the natal horoscope is

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crucial for determining the potential in the return and the events that will transpire. If the subject's natal horoscope shows an afflicted Mars and Mars is afflicted in the return, the scope is greatly magnified for conflicts of one sort or another. Events that come to pass will always show the potential for them in the natal horoscope, an important factor to keep in mind when forecasting.

A New or Full Moon appearing in a return chart has special significance in any chart, especially if found in the Solar or Lunar Return. The New Moon shows the birth of something new and a congealing of energies in an area that usually stimulates enthusiasm. The sign and house position of the New Moon provides more detail, and unless there are many adverse aspects to the configuration, it is generally favorable. There's often a sense of rejuvenation or revitalization in the area occupied by a New Moon and this is especially strong should it fall on a house cusp.

The Full Moon is indicative of a completion. It often indicates the culmination of a cooperative effort according to the signs and houses involved. It usually

reflects some degree of tension, which results in great effort and an extreme expenditure of energy. The Full Moon is slightly less favorable in general than the New Moon, sometimes reflecting the discordant end to an issue or separating paths. All particulars must be considered. Occurring in a planetary return, these factors will be in connection with the events and issues signified by the returning planet.

In addition to the enormous significance of the nodes and eclipses, there are a few other specialized points that reveal great detail when found emphasized in the returns. The Aries Point degree and the degrees associated with it are of special significance. They include the first degree of any of the cardinal signs, or 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. A stimulated Aries Point degree, by the occupancy of a planet or by its position on an angle, always ushers in the involvement of outside experts. Events of some magnitude are coming due, often with far-reaching ramifications. The overall chart will indicate the potential and the planet located in the degree and the aspects it forms usually describes the actual event precisely. It is often the transit of the return planet across the planet within the Aries Point degree that triggers the potential.

Another point of special interest is a fixed group of stars called the *Pleiades*. The Pleiades are located within the last degree of Taurus. This degree should be regarded with suspicion only if occupied by an afflicted planet or found on an angle that is afflicted. It is often found to be significant of illness or accident, the seriousness of which is found by a complete assessment of the chart. Associated

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with the “weeping sisters” and sadness, the degree of the Pleiades shifts from the last degree of Taurus to the first degree of Gemini in the year 2000.

Any planet that is retrograde at the onset of a return or one that goes retrograde shortly after the return will pass over the degree it held in the return two or three times. On the exact date it passes over the degree it held in the return chart, events or issues associated with the planet can be expected to surface. A basic knowledge of the planetary nature and keywords is sufficient for interpreting the contact.

The same significance of the planets, signs, houses, and planetary prominence may be applied whether reading a natal, progressed, or return chart with the only difference being the length of time they are in effect. The natal chart, of course, indicates lifelong tendencies while the progressed chart indicates conditions over a three-month period, approximately. The return chart shows themes for the period of the return and relevant to activities associated with the return

planet. Therefore, the following brief summary of the signs, houses, and planets can be used as a quick reference for interpreting features in any chart as well as how to mitigate the effects of unfavorably configured planets when prominent.

Sign and House Emphasis

It should be noted that the houses reflect the same basic principles as the sign related to it, so a planet in the first house works similarly to a planet in Aries. Opposite signs and opposite houses also represent two different poles of the same root principle, but our experience of the principles are slightly different. The first six signs and houses below the horizon reflect an individual application of the principles involved, while the last six signs and houses above the horizon show an exterior projection of the same principle upon the larger world. So, a planet in the ninth house may show qualities similar to a planet in Sagittarius, the third house, or Gemini. All four positions suggest the communication of ideas, but the methods utilized and motivations are different. Understanding the root principle actually simplifies interpretation by allowing the emergence of the most outstanding theme in a chart.

The following significance may be observed of a prominent sign or house and can be used as a reference for any type of return.

A prominence of planets in the first house or in the sign Aries establishes a focus on one's unique approach to the world and the initial reaction to stimuli.

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Opportunities or setbacks come through the exercise of personal initiative or new enterprise. Highly individualized work of an active nature, requiring self-assertion and a pioneering nature, is indicated. Corresponds to the head and whole physical body. Affects health through headaches, dizziness, neuralgia, or fever. Key phrase: "I am."

A prominence of planets in the second house or in the sign Taurus places a focus on material acquisition and resources of all kinds, including physical, emotional, spiritual, and mental. Endeavors are toward strengthening one's position by the consolidation and wise use of resources. Opportunities or losses come through efforts to build resources and accumulate possessions. May signify activities involving financiers or bankers. Corresponds to the throat area and thyroid gland. Affects health through laryngitis, tonsillitis, and throat problems. Key phrase: "I have."

A prominence of planets in the third house or in the sign Gemini places a focus on movement, transportation, and one's relationship to the immediate environment. Accentuates communication of all kinds and the development of formal or informal agreements. Opportunities or

setbacks come through one's ability to understand concepts and formulate ideas. Denotes events involving siblings, relatives, or neighbors. Corresponds to the lungs and nervous system. Affects health through pneumonia, bronchial illness, pleurisy, asthma, mental strains, or nervous disorders. Key phrase: "I think."

A prominence of planets in the fourth house or in the sign Cancer brings an emphasis to the domestic sphere, family, and parents, as well as one's ability to draw upon the storehouse of previous experiences for sustenance in handling current conditions. The home is used as a secure base for the emotional assimilation of data. Opportunities or loss come through domesticities or women and their interests. May signify events involving the parents, a move, or the inheritance of real estate. Corresponds with the stomach, breasts, diaphragm, ovaries, and womb. Affects health through digestive disorders. Key phrase: "I feel."

A prominence of planets in the fifth house or in the sign Leo places a focus on individualism and self-expression. Power is generated to create a tangible effect of inherited or innate talents and to produce an extension of the self. Opportunities or setbacks come through all forms of pleasure, entertainment, hobbies, romance, and children, as they are a living manifestation of the desire for self-expression. May signal the birth of a child or events involving a child. Corresponds with the heart and spinal cord. Affects health through heart problems, anemia, or ailments involving the spinal column. Key phrase: "I will."

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A prominence of planets in the sixth house or in the sign Virgo places an emphasis on one's work and the power to utilize resources. There is a need to make final adjustments in the immediate environment. Opportunities or loss come through the ability to achieve perfection, to make wise use of the tools at one's disposal, and the understanding and conformity with the laws of nature. Indicates the scope to be of service and to progress in areas requiring attention to detail. May denote activities on the job and with coworkers. Corresponds with the abdomen, intestines, and hands. Affects health through general illnesses and a lowered resistance to infections. Key phrase: "I analyze."

A prominence of planets in the seventh house or in the sign Libra places a focus on all entities and happenings that help to complete and round out one's experience of the world at large and one's unique place in it. Opportunities or setbacks come through the forming of partnerships, both private and business. Misunderstandings may lead to the forming of an enemy. Has polarity with the first house in which one's unique experience of the world is modified through partnerships. Signals events

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involving the marriage or business partner. health through mental strains and
Corresponds with the kidneys. Affects health through kidney insufficient oxygenation of the blood. Key
disease, diabetes, and urinary problems. Key phrase: "I balance." phrase: "I see."

A prominence of planets in the eighth house or in the sign Scorpio establishes an emphasis on one's ability to reinforce and build up resources as a result of worldly relationships and partnerships. Opportunities or loss come through the ability to gain the support of others and/or to convert resources as a means to bring about improvement or a betterment of conditions. Has polarity with the second house in which resources earned personally are pooled in cooperation with others. May denote events involving loan institutions, insurance agencies, or tax collectors. Corresponds with the reproductive system and excretory organs. The health may be affected through ruptures, highly infectious diseases, and diseases involving the sexual organs. Key phrase: "I desire."

A prominence of planets in the ninth house or in the sign Sagittarius places an emphasis on the world outside the immediate environment and the means by which one establishes contact, whether through lofty forms of communication or through travel. Opportunities or reversals may come through one's ability to explore, propagate, conceive of abstract ideas, or formulate philosophical theories and get them accepted. Has polarity with the third house in which elementary concepts are converted into broader theory. May indicate events involving long-distance relatives, instructors, or clergymen. Corresponds to the thighs and hips. Affects

A prominence of planets in the tenth house or in the sign Capricorn brings an emphasis to the profession, public reputation, and position in the world. Corresponds with one's conscious effort toward meeting goals and earning the respect of the public. Opportunities or setbacks come through one's ability to create a successful public image as a result of accumulated experiences. There is scope for gaining advancement and taking on heavier responsibilities. Has polarity with the fourth house in which self-understanding and personal security are projected outwardly to come under the scrutiny of authorities and the larger public. Denotes events involving parents and authority figures. Corresponds with the bones, joints, hair, and skin. Affects health through chills, rheumatism, or sclerosis. Key phrase: "I use."

A prominence of planets in the eleventh house or in the sign Aquarius places a focus upon one's ability to express individualism upon the larger world. Corresponds to the formation of

friendships and group bonds as a means to wider self-expression through additional acceptance, support, and approval. Opportunities or reversals come through associations, whether private, business, or social. The scope for handling power or attracting attention through use of one's creative genius is present. Has polarity with the fifth house in which the fruits of self-expression earn collective praise and recognition for its representation of an entire group. Events are signaled involving friends and group affiliations. Corresponds with the circulation of the blood and lower leg. Affects health through nervous diseases, cramps, and varicose veins. Key phrase: "I know."

A prominence of planets in the twelfth house or in the sign Pisces brings an emphasis to efforts to perfect one's relationship with the world at large and the final adjustments to life as a whole. Opportunities or failure come through the ability to adjust to life situations with an undistorted perspective and in regard to one's own weaknesses. Indicates end results and a period of testing, as well as the scope to be of service to those less fortunate and to serve from behind the scenes. Has polarity with the sixth house, in which the understanding of the laws of nature includes hidden laws. May denote events involving recuperation or rehabilitation. Corresponds with the feet and affects health through illnesses in general and an increased resistance to disease. Key phrase: "I believe."

Planetary Function

The following significance may be observed by the prominence of a luminary or planet in any return chart.

A prominent Sun accentuates authority, prestige, honor, limelight, established or settled conditions, achievement of goals, patronage, individual consciousness, power of creation, pride, and the father, husband, or male element. If the Sun is prominent

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and afflicted, one's power of action is inhibited. Indicates a need to cultivate a persevering attitude if the affliction involves Neptune or Saturn, and a need for self-control and a calm frame of mind if from Mars, Uranus, or Jupiter.

The Moon, when prominent, accentuates publicity, personal popularity, restlessness, feelings, fluctuations and change, instinct, sensitivity, cherishing nature, the mother, wife or female element, the domestic life, and home. If prominent and afflicted, difficulties in personal relationships may be the result of inwardly directed sympathies. There is a need to direct the sympathies outward and toward others.

A prominent Mercury accentuates movement, travel, reading, writing, speaking, spreading of ideas, study and detailed work, the ability to fathom concepts,

brothers, sisters, relatives, young people, and children. If prominent and afflicted, an overly active mental state leads to a waste of intellectual energies as the merits of previous decisions are continually questioned. Shows a need to cultivate attention to detail and composure of purpose when problem-solving and to then let go of the problem.

Venus, when prominent, shows an accent on love, marriage, romance, pleasure, financial gain, harmony-seeking propensities, aesthetic sensitivity, accommodating instincts, young women, and the wife. If Venus is prominent and afflicted, an excessive need for harmony, approval, or affection leads to oversensitivity. Resulting emotional disappointments are then more frequent and have a disproportionate effect. Indicates a need to cultivate objectivity and reason in handling the emotional desires and to realize that life won't always run smoothly and flawlessly if personal growth is to continue.

A prominent Mars accentuates energy, enterprise, passion, initiative, hard work, impatience, fire, inflammatory conditions, quarrels, antagonism, destructive tendencies, young men, the husband, or masculine types. If Mars is prominent and afflicted, problems arise as a result of misdirected energy. One should cultivate calm reflection on the probable outcome of actions and refrain from acting too hastily, too rashly, or too vigorously. Excessive energy is well directed by acting in behalf of other's interests rather than one's own.

Jupiter, when prominent, shows an accent on increase or honor, expansion, advancement, patronage, financial gain, joy, charitable instincts, travel, legal cere-

monies or legal matters, religion, and philosophy. If Jupiter is prominent and afflicted, a tendency toward over-optimism, carelessness, and extravagance arises from a disregard of intelligent foresight. One should cultivate discretion and common sense in evaluating situations prior to taking action, especially if risk is involved.

A prominent Saturn accentuates consolidation, contraction, crystallization, the need for self-discipline, loss, delay, hindrance, limitation, disappointment, lack of appreciation, hardships, integrity, hard work, responsibilities, selfishness, the father, authorities, or old people. If Saturn is prominent and afflicted, there may be a lack of confidence. Courage, hope, and determination results from the delays and barriers in the way of progress. While one should accept the need for patience and a conservation of energy, countering the ill effects come from cultivating a positive frame of mind and remaining in social contact with others.

A prominent Uranus highlights unusual developments, the awakening of

new interests, new and cataclysmic connections, mental stimulus, enlightenment, unexpected or sudden changes, and upset. If Uranus is prominent and afflicted, there is a tendency to excessive tension and restlessness. The desire to take some form of action, no matter what the ultimate cost, leads to difficulties in personal associations. Indicates a need to cultivate an understanding that the currently arising disruptive circumstances are designed to shake one out of old ruts that may have been standing in the way of progress and to awaken one to future possibilities.

Neptune, when prominent, shows an accent on the removal of barriers, loosening of bonds, dissolution, long-distance travel, especially by sea or air, ecstasy, the manifestation of long-held dreams, restless dissatisfaction, disappointment, deceit, treachery, abandonment, and self-sacrifice. Neptune may show excessive imagination or a tendency to overindulge if prominent and afflicted. The emotions obstruct an accurate appraisal of issues and viewing them in their proper focus. Cultivate a positive outlook, practice common sense, and focus on a balanced application to the job at hand to compensate for vague drifting and dreamy idealism.

A prominent Pluto shows an accent on new beginnings, transformation, rebirth, elimination, compulsion, refusal to compromise, death, reorientation, and destruction. If Pluto is prominent and afflicted, previously dormant disruptive tendencies rise to the surface through a combination of unrelenting circumstances and subconscious urges. Adequate self-integration decreases the potential for disastrous results stemming from strange compulsions. One should cultivate calm detachment and analyze inner motives dispassionately.

Because there is a discernible link between prevailing attitudes and mindset

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with the conditions in which we find ourselves, a conscious effort to control thoughts can actually stave off harmful physical manifestations of an afflicted planet. This is similar to reaping karmic rewards. A great degree of control lies within an individual as to when karmic rewards, positive or negative, are dealt. If negative karma has been built, the penalty will come at a time when the thoughts and intentions are running along negative lines. This might be through wrong attitudes toward others or a preoccupation with disturbing or confusing thoughts. Consciously directing the thoughts and maintaining a positive and poised mental balance can theoretically stave off the results of negative karma indefinitely. Thoughts lead to action and by such a practice, one ultimately works positive deeds, thus building up fortunate karma to further offset the negative. By the same

token, rewards for past karma of a positive nature generally arrive at a time of mental optimism. Obviously, we all have both positive and negative karmic rewards coming. The entrance for good is provided by a positive frame of mind.

There is hardly ever a time that all the planets are afflicted at once. Usually there is some allaying force even with heavy afflictions. All of the planetary aspects work out, none become void due to another, but they can be mitigated. For example, an affliction involving Saturn to the Sun may arrive at the same time as a positive aspect from Jupiter. One ushers in delays, sluggish health, and toil while the other brings beneficiaries, luck, and protection. Because they are happening at the same time, the rewards from Jupiter will not be as great as otherwise but neither will the challenges from Saturn be as depressing as without the assisting aspects of Jupiter. With the right attitude, one can mitigate the effects of Saturn and boost those of Jupiter.

It should be clear from the foregoing how to best direct the thoughts in order to alleviate the effects of an afflicted planet. For example, practicing qualities associated with Jupiter best offsets the effects of afflicted Mercury. Uranus can mitigate an afflicted Saturn, while the steady application of Saturn most effectively curbs the restlessness of Uranus.

The following chapters will lead you through a thorough assessment of each of the returns.

Chapter Four

THE SOLAR RETURN

Symbolism of the Sun

Because the Sun describes one's character, ego drive, and destiny, this chart reflects important activity in keeping with one's pursuits along the life path. The Sun is the most powerful body in the natal chart. The Solar Return can be regarded as a sort of auxiliary natal chart, a one- year map that shows the foundation from which one will be working to accomplish major goals. This continues to be the most popular of all the return charts.

A chart calculated for the exact time of the Sun's return to its natal position indicates current environmental factors and the trend of experience for the following year.

If the progressed configurations have been considered, it becomes a much simpler task to predict specific events. By knowing the underlying plot to the story, as shown in the progressions, it is easier to extract the major themes as they recur in the return chart, and judgment of particular aspects is more accurate. For example, it could be dismaying to find Saturn on an angle of the Solar Return, especially if in hard aspect to another planet. However, unless the progressed chart shows the formation of several exact stressful aspects with Saturnine

undertones, such a configuration is no of the Solar Return may show the reason for alarm. It more likely signals a conclusion to goals of the previous year as delay in plans, a need for self-discipline, or well as the beginning stages of new goals to a challenge to overcome.

The Solar Return reflects one's will to achieve, creative ability, sense of independence and enterprise, power of leadership, and the potential for advancement. Opportunities may come through determined effort, ambition, merit, or the support of superiors. It further reflects the potential to become better established through domestic security, an enhancement of prestige, investment, or consolidation. If there are threats of loss in any of these areas, it will be shown in the Solar Return along with the source of the problem. Such problems may come from a false sense of pride, misfortune, damage to property, or the failing fortunes of superiors.

The Solar Return also shows the health and fortunes of superiors, the father, and, for a female, her husband. The general health of an individual is also shown in the Solar Return for the time period in which it is in effect.

The actual day of the Solar Return often corresponds with a surge of activity. There is frequently a general feeling of well-being and enthusiasm. It is worth mentioning that the attention centering upon an individual on his or her birthday stems from the old and genuine belief that good wishes, gifts, and free-flowing thoughts of love provide strong roots for a successful year.

Peaks in activity taking place at the time

be realized over the next year. Personal plans, projects, or activities underway at the onset of the return will prove to be a basis for critical developments throughout the year, especially as the transiting Sun makes important contacts to other return planets.

Interpreting the Solar Return

Interpreting the Solar Return is very similar to reading a natal chart, with the exception that the potential will develop to full maturity within the year, rather than over the course of a lifetime. If the Solar Return closely matches the natal chart, by rising sign and degree, it will be an especially significant year. Events relating to personal establishment and power of leadership are apt to have a great impact upon the long-range future. The more prominent the Sun is in the natal chart, the greater the scope for important achievements when the Solar Return house cusps closely duplicate the nativity cusps. Several aspects to the Sun in the return emphasize this theme.

The various factors addressed in reading a natal chart should initially be scrutinized

in the return chart. By checking the number of planets in each of the elements and the number in each of the modes, one sign will emerge to reflect an emphasis. For example, a preponderance of planets in air signs with another emphasis on fixed signs reveals the characteristics of Aquarius as quite descriptive of the period, regardless of whether any planets actually occupy that sign.

Hemispheric emphases of the planets, using the Ascendant-Descendant axis and the MC-IC axis as dividing lines are also revealing. When the left side of the chart or eastern half holds the greatest number of planets, by use of the conscious will, an individual is able to command events, initiate action, and take control. When the majority of planets fall in the right or western half of the chart, events are brought about largely through the initiative of others, with whom there is some special concern and need for cooperation. Similarly, when most of the planets occupy the upper half of the chart, it shows an interest on externals or issues as they relate to a broad group. This emphasis gives an objective viewpoint and extroverted tendencies. If the lower half of the chart is predominantly occupied, the suggestion is of introverted tendencies and a preoccupation with personal affairs.

The overall pattern of the chart may also be considered. Seven patterns were distinguished by Mark Edmond Jones as suggestive of certain behavioral types when found in the nativity. These patterns are also useful for distinguishing specific themes for the year in which they are found in the Solar Return.

If the planets are splashed all over the

chart and fairly evenly distributed throughout the houses, the *Splash* pattern is established. This suggests that there is such a diversity of stimuli that one will either scatter energies indiscriminately, making it difficult to accomplish the main goal, or be forced into becoming extraordinarily organized.

If the *See-Saw* pattern is found, in which the chart looks just the same as it sounds, with maybe a couple of stragglers, two completely opposing types of experiences are calling, and the individual feels just as compelled toward one as to the other. This creates such an awareness of conflict that a choice must be made to either find a happy medium or to wrestle perpetually with opposing • urges. The points of conflict will be found in the opposing signs and houses of the planets. Planets exactly opposite one another show extreme conflict, and with many opposing planets the individual may become caught up in an energyconsuming struggle. The entire process of relating may be based on the area of conflict and the mind jumps automatically to these issues.

The *Locomotive* pattern is found when development of the potential.

the planets are spread out to occupy two-thirds of the chart, leaving one-third empty. This indicates a compulsion to seek fulfillment, which is based on the feeling that something is missing. It often suggests self-seeking tendencies as well as executive ability.

The *Bundle* is produced when all the planets are grouped together in one third of the chart. Such a pattern suggests inhibitions and a narrow range of interests. Responses to stimuli outside this range are not forthcoming. The Bundle does, however, indicate the opportunity to become self-reliant and to capitalize upon limited resources.

When the planets occupy half the chart, leaving the other half empty, the *Bowl* pattern is produced. This pattern establishes a self-contained individual with great inner strength, who, nevertheless, feels cut off from a whole segment of experience. The compulsion is to initiate projects for the betterment of his or her fellows if the lower half of the chart predominates or to consummate such projects if the upper half is emphasized.

Where the planets form a Bowl with the exception of one or two together on the opposite side of the chart, the *Bucket* is produced. The lone planet(s) shows a special capacity that brings a compelling orientation to the whole chart. In this case, the individual becomes a source of inspiration or an agitator, depending on the

The *Splay* pattern results if the planets do not fit into any of the foregoing categories. This pattern type generally shows three points of emphasis and is sometimes found to contain a Grand Trine. It distinguishes one with a personal stronghold that is fortifying against any type of opposition. It suggests a resolute individual and occasionally a ruthless nature.

Once the general characteristics of the chart have been considered, further findings will corroborate and emphasize the strongest themes. Planets to give special attention to include the ruler of the return Ascendant, as well as the most elevated planet in the chart, whether east or west of the Midheaven. The most elevated planet is not more important than a planet closer to an angle but if there is no great emphasis to another planet the most elevated may be given precedence. A planet in the return that aspects both the Sun and the Moon is of special import, showing a response of that planet on two significant levels, the instinctive or personal level, as well as an essential and individual level.

The overall integration of the planets should be noted. There may be two or three complexes of planets linked to one another but not to the other complexes,

indicating an individual who has difficulty bringing various drives together. If the planets are all interconnected it shows an inner balance that can offset difficult aspects. A planet receiving no aspect represents qualities that remain unexpressed, as they are not integrated and there is no route through which they can flow effectively.

The rising sign should be carefully considered since the personality will take on many of the characteristics of the sign and endeavors will show an expression of the sign's attributes. Use of some leading key words for the sign begins the interpretation.

In judging the Ascendant or any of the houses, the fixed signs bring qualities of stability or permanence, mutable signs show fluctuations or a preparatory stage, and cardinal signs indicate personal action. Blending the elements reveals an initiation of activity if a fire sign; practical concerns if an earth sign; intellectual interests if an air sign; and psychological issues if a water sign. Further consideration of the particular sign will bring even greater definition to the rising sign as well as to each of the individual houses and the affairs they govern. If Scorpio were rising, one would know that it is time for change. Such changes will stem from psychological needs of a subtle but persisting nature. Transformations taking place will affect one's degree of stability and the position and aspects of Pluto, the ruling planet, as well as other planets in the first house reveal the types of changes needed.

The signs on the angles will normally be most indicative of the coming trend unless

there is a heavily occupied sign or house, in which case the sign characteristics and/or issues pertaining to the emphasized house must also be accounted for.

The natal house that is brought to the Ascendant position of the return is very important and should be given special consideration. Since the Ascendant is an area of energy manifestation, conditions and environment will provide an ideal outlet for events and issues associated with this natal house. The people, issues, and affairs of that house will occupy the attention to a great extent. These key factors are noted on the chart near the cusp of the Ascendant along with previous notations.

The house occupied by the Sun in the return highlights an area of some importance. The will to achieve may be associated with the people and affairs governed by the house. There is often an opportunity to gain mastery over that area. Some degree of mastery will undoubtedly be in evidence by the end of the period, sometimes to an outstanding degree, this depending on use of the potential and challenges to face. In return charts the house polarity factor

must also be considered since opposing houses represent two poles of the same principle. While the house occupied by the Sun is most revealing, the people and affairs governed under the opposite house will also be relevant.

To add more substance to a simple interpretation of the house occupied by the Sun, a few other guidelines are valuable. Pivotal circumstances and events correspond with the angular houses: one, four, seven, and ten. These positions of the Sun incline to turning points and exceptional activity. Things are happening! The succedent houses—two, five, eight, and eleven—can be counted on to represent issues involving resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions, finalities, and the opportunity for stabilization. The cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. These are the third, sixth, ninth, and twelfth houses. While it is a somewhat obscure area of the chart, preparations made at this latter stage promote personal growth and are crucial to later developments and long-range achievements. Steps taken by an individual with the cadent positions often remain in the background and do not reach full maturity until a later stage in their development, sometimes corresponding with the onset of the next return.

To further define the houses, consider the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses.

They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

If the return chart shows the Sun on an angle, and/or tightly configured with other planets, it will be quite an eventful year and the return period is likely to start out with a burst of activity. If the Sun is in an angular house, the first one-third of the return period will be particularly emphasized regarding concerns associated with the Sun. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle portion of the return period that shows an increase in these activities and the latter portion of the period will be accentuated if the Sun falls in a cadent house. While the

house position of the Sun alone is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for any heavy concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

Once the basics have been accounted for, the planet(s) forming the closest conjunction(s) with any of the four angles of the return should be given precedence in reading the chart. The symbolism of these planets will be significant factors in the affairs to transpire over the course of the period. Of the angles, the first and tenth house cusps are more prominent positions than the fourth or seventh, unless there are additional factors to consider. The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so events linked to the nature of a planet occupying one of these points are provided a superb outlet. These angular planets reveal major themes for the entire period according to the planetary nature and its aspects. The natal condition and integration of such a planet are very important to ascertain the probable effects. Not only are the themes associated with the planet paramount for the ensuing period, but the planet further indicates the essence of outpouring energy, the angle tells where it will manifest and the sign indicates how it will manifest and to what purpose.

As with any return, the natal planets should be inserted onto the wheel to find any important ties to return planets or house cusps. They will add to the interpretation of the return. Natal planets on an angle of the return are also provided an ideal environment to manifest inherent potential

and just as significant as a return planet on an angle.

A year in which the Solar Return shows the Sun resuming contact with several planets with which it was in natal aspect is of considerable importance and a number of significant events will occur. Conditions and circumstances that arise during this return period provide an opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized. The type of link is not as important as the fact that a connection has been reestablished.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always bear in mind the natal relationship of the Sun to another planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect in the return. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the potential of a later aspect between two planets. If, for example, the Sun is in square in the return chart to a planet that it was in natal opposition, the potential for stressful circumstances is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of a natal trine, but whatever circumstances arise can be worked out more easily to one's credit and benefit. Conversely, a return trine from the Sun to a planet in

which it was in natal square represents an opportunity to work through some of the stress indicated by the original aspect. While stress may still manifest, the individual should do all possible to direct efforts toward a propitious outcome. This promotes a healthier integration of the element, steadies the elemental energy, and leads to a matured handling of challenges. If the Sun repeats a promising aspect found in the natal chart, it is a time when special opportunities may appear to fall in one's lap.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Solar Return itself. Planets that the Sun is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are the most likely to produce stress when the Sun forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two natively, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that the transiting Sun makes as it circles the return will show activity relating to that planet, but contact to a planet in which it was in return aspect will usually prove to hold greater significance. Aspects it forms to natal planets should also be noted, most specifically if tied to a return planet by conjunction or lying on one of the angles of the return.

As the vital life force and symbol of the higher self, the Sun illuminates and vitalizes any planet that falls within its rays and one of the best auspices to look for in the Solar Return is a well-aspected Sun. This affords greater ease in pursuing goals

in the year that follows. The vitality is unencumbered and assistance or support will come from several areas. Associations formed with those of high standing may reveal their capacity to act as a stepping stone to major achievements. Superiors are likely to prove quite supportive and beneficial. Adverse aspects to the Sun testify to the people that will challenge the efforts and the various blocks encountered on the personal path.

Having Jupiter, Venus, or the Sun well aspected on an angle of the chart is generally a year to anticipate special events and fortuitous affairs. Unless there are major countering themes, these signify a year of fulfillment and happiness. Having the chart ruler well aspected is similarly fortunate.

Finer Points of Interpretation

The houses of the Solar Return in which natal planets fall also reveal important details about the ensuing time period. If a return planet falls on a natal planet, then significant events relating to the house occupied by the pair will find them working together, either in harmony or discord. This is determined largely by the natures of the planets, their natal relationship, and by the aspects they receive in the return.

Further assessment provides *The Solar Return* even greater detail. For example, if a planet in the return is within a degree of aspect to any house cusp, it represents either a line of assistance or challenge in regard to the affairs of that house. The nature of the planet along with the type of aspect determines this influence. Say that a planet forms an exact square to both the second and eighth house cusps. This shows potential reversals in the area of finance and the planet represents the person and/or affairs linked to such potential. It would be wise to forego making important financial decisions on a day that the transiting Sun stimulates these degrees, especially relating to affairs signified by the afflicting planet as it could result in some degree of financial loss.

Any planet falling on a house cusp will have much to “say” about the affairs of that house for the return period. This may be either a natal or return planet. These planetary connections to cusps provide exceptional clues and detail.

A close aspect from a return planet to the natal Moon allows a deep look into the chart. Especially by conjunction, the energy vibrations from other bodies easily influence the Moon. Since the Moon reveals our private domain, personal affairs, and emotional well-being on a daily basis, a planet linked to it in the Solar Return shows a trend for the entire year. Conditions and circumstances reflecting the nature of such a planet will have an impact on daily personal affairs, family

affairs, and domestic affairs. A specific theme will be highlighted throughout the return period and sensitive to upcoming triggering transits. A later delineation helps illustrate this point.

A New or Full Moon appearing in the Solar Return chart has special significance. The New Moon shows the birth of something new and a congealing of energies in an area that usually stimulates enthusiasm. The sign and house position of the New Moon provides more detail, and unless there are many adverse aspects to the configuration, it is generally favorable. The Full Moon is indicative of completion. It often indicates the culmination of a cooperative effort according to the signs and houses involved. It often reflects some degree of tension, resulting in an extreme expenditure of energy. The Full Moon is slightly less favorable than the New Moon, sometimes reflecting a discordant end to an issue or separating paths. All particulars must be considered. These solar and lunar aspects to one another frequently reflect upon private affairs within an intimate relationship. By applying the same concepts, it will be found that the easy aspects correspond with greater balance and harmony in these masculine-feminine relationships, while stressful aspects correspond with some degree of discord.

Checking lunar factors alone, *The Solar Return* to Saturn, is of a separating nature, and return, there is more than sufficient information with which to begin predicting events. The return Moon holds just as much detail about the year to come and should be given the same attention as the natal Moon. The last section of this chapter discusses each of the sign and house positions of the Solar Return Moon and the associated issues.

If one of the Moon's nodes falls in conjunction with a return or natal planet, those planetary energies will manifest quite dynamically and associated issues will be emphasized during the return period. The conjunction of the North Node to a planet shows where one is heading, qualities to be consciously developed, and plenty of opportunities to do so. It has a joining quality and many of the attributes of Jupiter, representing expansion, enthusiasm, and excitement. It can be pictured as an exclamation mark, pointing to and flowing power to any planet it is linked with. Needless to say, the added energy boost is least compatible with Mars, who is often off and running on a personal agenda already. The manner in which the nodal combinations will manifest has everything to do with the particulars surrounding the vitalized planet. The North Node will draw out all of the potential.

A South Node conjunction indicates a quality that is already part of the nature and requires little effort to make use of. It further suggests self-dissipation, mishandling, or exercising less than adequate consciousness in an area. It has qualities simi-

lar to Saturn, sometimes shows where there are moral deficiencies. Again, the nodal conjunctions are quite spectacular whether involving a natal or a return planet. Chapter 21 covers the transits and aspects of the nodes at length and is followed by a table of the nodal positions through 2054.

The North Node falling on the return Ascendant provides many benefits for the period. One is easily able to lead, set the pace, and personal timing is excellent for gaining the support and cooperation of others. Falling on the cusp of the seventh house, one tends to "lean" on another or must make personal decisions with considerable respect for another's best interests. At the same time, this latter position also reflects benefits to be gained through another and through cooperative efforts in general.

There is always a significant connection between a house of the return and its corresponding natal house. For instance, the area of the natal chart that is found occupying the twelfth house of the return is an area that is temporarily secluded. There is an element of mystery here, a secret, or a missing piece of data. If it is the natal second house lying within the boundaries of the twelfth

house of the return, one may need to refrain from disclosing a financial matter or could be awaiting the outcome of a financial issue. It may be wise to delay making important decisions in the area until one is sure that all pertinent facts are known. If it were the natal fifth, a child or lover could be in trouble, keeping a secret or misleading one. Each of the houses of the return can be assessed using this method. It is always the natural planetary ruler of a house that lends the keywords to assess the potential. In the preceding example, Neptunian vibrations influenced the affairs of the natal house that was rotated into the twelfth-house position. By simply inserting the number of the natal house at the corresponding return house cusp, it is easy to apply this technique. It will also be found that affairs relating to a house in the nativity will have an impact on affairs of the corresponding return house. It is a two-way street and issues relating to the two houses will be entangled for the coming year.

If the return shows an intercepted natal house, the flow of energy associated with the natal house may seem blocked or only able to manifest within the confines of the return house in which it is held. Look to the house position and aspects of the ruler of an intercepted sign for additional outlets of energy.

The return house and affairs relating to it upon which the sign of Gemini is found will be an area of duplicity or multiplicity. If found on the second house cusp, there may be income from two sources; if on the seventh, two experts may need to be consulted; if on the sixth, one may hold

The Solar Return
two jobs, have extra work coming in, and be spread exceptionally thin to meet service obligations. The same treatment can be given each house according to the nature of a sign. The sign of Gemini is, of course, the sign of the twins.

If one of the inner planets rules the Ascendant, and is retrograde at the onset of the return, chances for personal reversals may be increased if other chart signatures suggest the same. This is frequently brought about through erroneous judgment. These chances escalate if the planet forms adverse aspects. Implications of an inner retrograde planet are of delays and the need for review involving the associated affairs. These guidelines can be extended to reveal areas in need of review that are ruled by retrograde Mercury, Venus, or Mars. Also in this instance, the exact date that the planet once again passes over the degree it held in the return, whether by direct or retrograde motion, will always be a significant day in regard to such matters.

The first natal planet to rise to the Ascendant of the return chart will often set the precedence for events to follow, with the Sun, Venus, and Jupiter inclining

toward favorable times, benefits ~~for the coming~~ ^{The Solar Return} (natal) position illustrate this point quite well. and pleasant social affairs. Saturn suggests business dealings, issues involving authorities, or could mean delays involving important matters. Each of the planets will stamp their personal signature to the time period when first to rise. If a planet lies within 5 degrees of the Ascendant, but occupies the twelfth house, it may be considered the rising planet unless another planet lies closer to the Ascendant. The astrologer should always allow the chart to lead.

Judging Points of Energy and Timing Activity

As the Sun, in its transit, circles the return chart, when it contacts the various planets and points activity will surface. Since the Sun vitalizes any body it contacts, the return planet coming under aspect will have a bearing on the actual affairs that come to pass. These can usually be timed very accurately to the day the contact is exact. In regard to these matters, there will often be two or more related events, the first occurring at the Sun's conjunction to a planet and subsequent activity at the sextile, square, trine, and/or opposition, or what begins at the conjunction may be taken a step further at the sextile and then finalized at the square or opposition. The hard contacts are generally more productive of noticeable activity than the softer sextile and trine. These latter contacts usually correspond with smooth sailing in regard to an issue and there is seldom a need to take action, although if more action were taken at these times, it might reduce the incoming stress at the times of hard contacts. Those are the times one is forced into action or to regain control.

Although each of the planets contacted produce specific activity associated with it, the contacts of the Sun to its return (and

The squares and opposition formed from the transiting Sun to the return or natal Sun corresponds with climaxes in one's attempts for personal success or fulfilling the life destiny. The first square, following the birthday by three months, coincides with a peak in events that indicates needed adjustments to the current course. Generally, we have either established a whole new route near the last birthday or we have made modifications to a previous course. It is at this stage that we see the initial results of our efforts and methods. If glitches are encountered, this is the time to make revisions.

At the opposition, we find the result of all our efforts for the previous six months. This is a culmination of our efforts and at this time we experience a sense of success or failure as dictated by the events taking place. Now, we may choose to continue our course if we have

succeeded, but if we have failed, it is at this stage that we must cut our losses, regroup, and contemplate new choices. If entering the preparation stage at this point, the next six months are likely to be dedicated to homework and the first authentic signs to push forward may not arrive until the next birthday.

At the last square of the transiting Sun, three months prior to the next birthday, the current phase winds down and another peak occurs. This one corresponds to new information and/or an original idea that will be nurtured over the next three months. If we have been successful in previous efforts, it is at this phase that we are introduced to additional methods to apply in the future. If we were unsuccessful in previous attempts, it is at this point that we get a glimpse of a new course of action.

Contacts of the Sun to the angles of the return chart correspond with major peaks in activity for the year. Activity begins to accelerate as the Sun approaches the angles, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away. The first and tenth house cusps are exceptional points of activity. It is also wise to anticipate important activity at the time the Sun contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction.

The Sun also stimulates and brings about an unfolding of activity associated with significant configurations within the return chart when the contacts become exact. Look for outstanding configurations linking planets by close aspect and prepare for activity as the Sun crosses any of them. Often overlooked, if the return chart holds

several planets in nearly the same degree, though in different signs, it will be a sensitive degree. As the Sun reaches this degree in any of the signs, it stimulates several planets at once, thus the dates of these transits often correspond with remarkable events.

An unusually active time period is found when the Sun contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for the energies of the Sun, and the planet reflects an already unique set of energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy resulting is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle, sign, planet, aspects, and house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If the Sun, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal the area and type of activity stimulated, although affairs tend to remain low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune

a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act as previous work, *Predicting Events with Astrology*.
to greatly stimulate the Sun and often reflect an event of special note.

Another point of emphasis is noted when the Sun enters the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since these positions of the Sun are extremely sensitive. Called the *Aries Point degrees*, these include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of magnitude and far-reaching circumstances. There is a worldly connotation and one's personal affairs become public. Those outside the normal circle become involved and possess a weighty influence. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or opposition from the transiting Sun to another planet or point in the return that lies in one of these Aries Point degrees. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time. Outside assistance may be required or a professional expert consulted. One thing certain: whatever takes place will have a great impact and the event will be instilled in one's memory. Tabulate the exact dates that the transiting Sun makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points, since this provides an excellent opportunity to be in the right place at the right time.

Upcoming eclipses should be noted in case they stimulate an important configuration or point in the return chart. They are quite powerful even when occurring on a house cusp. A complete listing of eclipses through the year 2050 can be found in my

The Sun's Transiting Aspects

The following descriptions may be applied to the aspects formed within the return as well as to the transiting aspects formed by the Sun to the return or natal planets.

The Sun in aspect to the Moon indicates the desire for harmonious achievement. An integration of the inner desires with that of the will often results in superb handling of opportunities and achievement. With stressful contacts between the two, emotional frustrations and an inability to coordinate emotional desires with the will of the ego may result in setbacks. Remaining objective and outward looking helps guard against the attraction of unfortunate events. Taking caution against making ill-advised changes based on emotions is recommended during this brief transit if the Moon is particularly unfortunate.

The Sun to Mercury aspects stimulate mental activity of all kinds. The ability to adapt may be called upon due to changing circumstances. Opportunities arising are often connected with travel,

communication, transport, or literary work. The ability to cope with detail or lack thereof will often result in the successes or failures encountered at this time. Restlessness is sometimes noted.

The Sun in aspect to Venus stimulates the artistic instincts as well as the harmony-seeking and affectionate nature. Opportunities are often along social or artistic lines, and associations that will later prove beneficial may come about through social introductions. Women, especially, tend to be of a fortunate influence under this aspect unless other configurations prevent it. In general, this is a time for pleasurable activities. If the aspect dictates, the individual should guard against overindulgence.

The Sun aspects to Mars are always dynamic and important progress nearly always noted as long as the combined energy is directed properly. These contacts arouse the power of command. They stimulate the passions and indicate how well the aggressive or individualistic desires are working with the long-range will to achieve. If these are in conflict the inner impulses may bring about turbulence and actually undermine the true will of the ego. Opportunities for advancement are usually along lines requiring energetic action, initiative, or enterprising schemes. If Mars is exceptionally afflicted and the chart agrees, these aspects may show a threat to the vitality through an accident or illness.

The Sun in aspect to Jupiter arouses the expansive qualities associated with that planet, especially in regard to expanding

resources or the range of experience on various levels. The manifestation of the contact depends much on the aspect since stressful aspects indicate a misuse of expansive qualities. With those, one is likely to be overly optimistic about resources, material or physical, resulting in waste or loss. In any case, one demonstrates benevolence and enthusiasm, and with the better aspects the judgment is good, the vitality strong, and the financial fortunes often take a turn for the better. An opportunity for gaining honor or distinction, or the realization of some long-cherished goal, is likely. All of the aspects indicate socializing.

The Sun in aspect to Saturn stimulates ambitions and the powers of selfreliance. Previous efforts, attention to duty, and self-discipline often result in a position of responsibility at this time. Opportunities usually come through associations with those of extensive experience in the area relating to one's personal goals. This may be an older person or a mentor. A long-term association or enterprise may begin and there is a general accent on business. With difficult aspects it may be a time of testing, when one is forced to face hardships or make

sacrifices. These events are designed to steady and strengthen one toward taking more responsibility based upon a realistic view of capabilities. Inadequacies must be faced squarely and solemnly. Occasionally, such tests involve physical vitality or the health or position of a superior. Other features in the chart will corroborate such potential.

When the Sun is in aspect to Uranus the creative genius is stimulated and the will is dynamically aroused. An accent on activities associated with new technology, original ideas, inventive efforts, and the unconventional will show opportunities arising through these avenues. Flashes of intuitive insight are sometimes noted. Associations with new or unusual persons often result in being catapulted into new areas of experience. There is also the likelihood that some unforeseen event(s) will occur in the area occupied by Uranus in the return. Whether this aspect is of a turbulent nature or otherwise may be found by assessing all factors. A rebellious nature or a refusal to fit in and go along with the interests of others is often the source of setbacks and sometimes results in damage to prestige or reputation.

When the Sun is in aspect to Neptune there is stimulation to the imagination, sympathies, and emotions. With this aspect the veil is lifted between the conscious and the unconscious. The power arising from the emotions provide a connection to the true source of manifestation or spirit. Occasionally, the realization of a long-cherished dream coincides with this aspect and opportunities abound for gaining spiritual illumination and enlightenment. There may be strong visions or pre-

cognition regarding the direction events are about to take. On the other hand, one may experience mental confusion. Vague worries agitate in the back of the mind and there is danger of being deceived through a play upon the idealistic nature. The aspect tends to an involvement with alcohol or other drugs, and sometimes to travel.

The Sun in aspect to Pluto stimulates a desire to take command and be recognized for one's unique abilities. Opportunities come through the initiation of new enterprise or taking on a role of dynamic leadership. An increased awareness of individual power is often a prelude to major character changes and accomplishments. One may experience a compelling force to take a stand and make a mark upon the world. Obsessive behavior may also stem from these contacts and it is not a time to back down or give up an ideal. Physical endurance is often at a peak, but can still be pushed beyond the limit unless some balance is maintained. Events may bring about an understanding of subtle yet powerful energy forces all around. This may come about through the realization that one's own

thoughts attract events according to the desire nature and area of concentration. Occasionally these aspects coincide with a health issue in which toxic buildups are forced to surface. At its worst, the contact signifies problems stemming from control issues. Destructive forces may come into play in which no one wins.

The Solar Return at Work

In chapter 2, the progressed configurations were shown for Lee, along with a summary of the active aspects, transits, and the events they were reflecting in his life. During that year, he married for a second time and fought and won a custody case for his two children from a previous marriage. During that same year Lee also bought a home, moved, took a better job, and became a newly expectant parent with his new wife. For so many important events to occur, they should be easily seen in the Solar Return for the period. Many of these events and changes are familiar ones and concerns that we all share in common.

Domestic Fluctuations

Here, Lee's progressed Solar Return is shown on the inner wheel, with his natal planets in the middle wheel, and the transiting configurations for the time of the final custody hearing are on the outside wheel. The custody hearing was a crucial development for the year (chart 7).

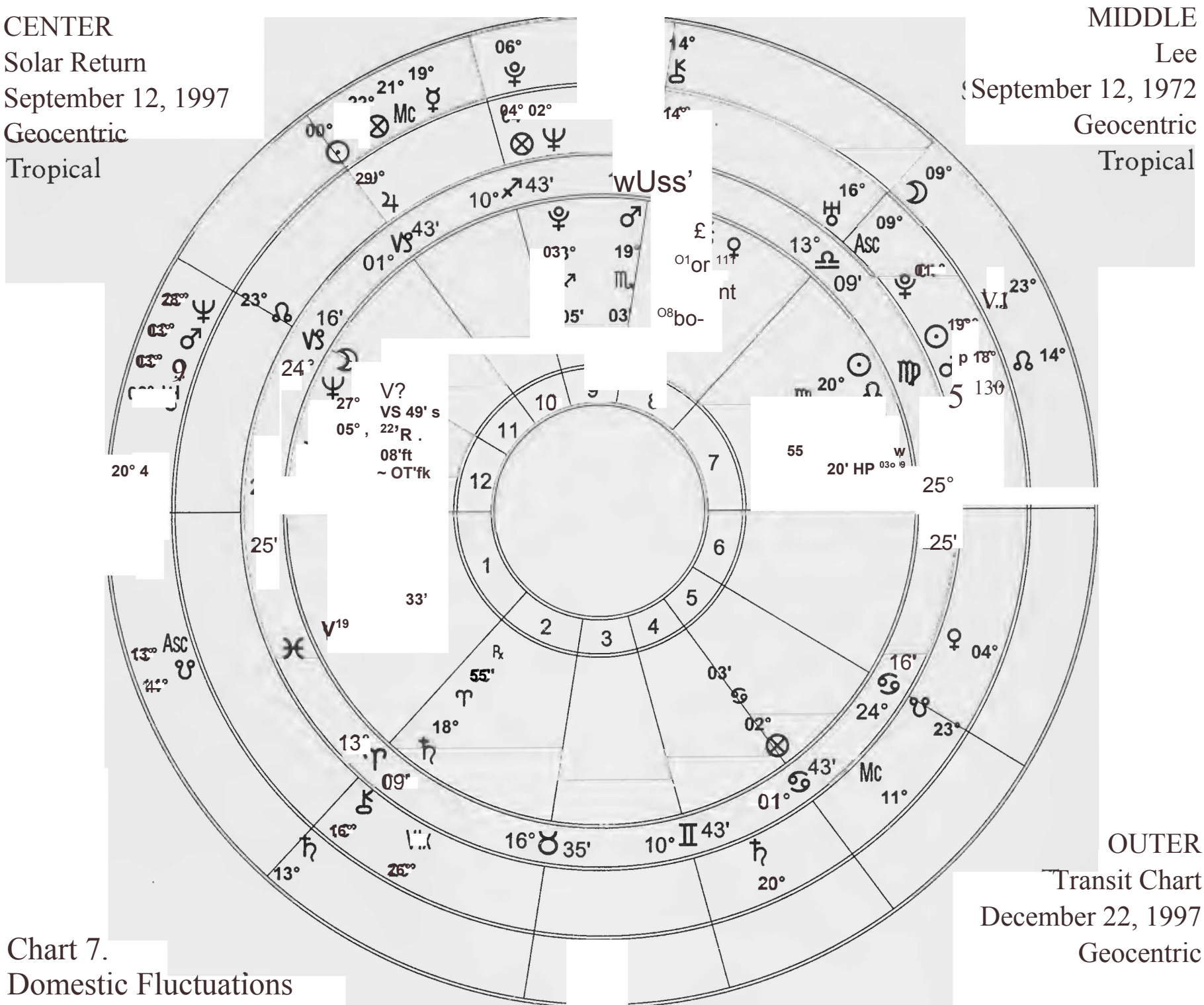
The Sun, obviously a focal point of the chart, is angular and in conjunction with the North Node. Already we know from the

angular position that the year will start out with a bang and that most of the major events will take place during the first one-third of the return period. The dynamics of the North Node conjunct the Sun underscores all that is indicated. The Sun both rules and occupies the seventh house and receives promising aspects from both the return and natal planets.

The most angular planets in the return include Pluto near the tenth house cusp, always an indication of a status change. In Sagittarius and actually on the ninthhouse side of the Midheaven, it suggests legalities pertaining to these status changes. Mercury is also angular, often signifying minor children and in Virgo it suggests attention to details. In the house of partnerships, these relationships are highlighted as areas where practical agreements can be reached. Jupiter has also just passed over the Ascendant, again to suggest the arrival of legal ceremonies. Natal Neptune is elevated, suggesting intrigue, and natal Saturn resides in the fourth house, indicating domestic responsibilities and limitations. In Gemini, the need for communication and agreement are again highlighted.

Lee's fifth house is rising and a couple of ties between the return and natal planets

are also noteworthy. The Solar Return potential seen in the Sagittarius and Jupiter Mars is conjunct the natal Moon, and this themes are reinforced and all of the most



combination can nearly always be important events do involve legalities and anticipated to bring about some degree of ceremonies. The ninth house cusp position of the pair especially emphasizes temporary upset or disturbance within the domestic and family sphere, whether of a fortunate or unfortunate nature. The aspect symbolized the domestic rearrangements following his new marriage, the later move as well as the turbulent circumstances with his ex-wife over the welfare of their children. Further, the conjunction occurs on the cusp of the ninth house, so the

the potential for a move. The Moon, return or natal, most often occupies the third or ninth houses when a move occurs; nothing makes more sense for domestic uprooting as depicted in the Moon-Mars combination than a move. One final note on the return Mars conjunction with the natal Moon is that each of the Lunar Returns to follow this Solar Return will have this connection between the two charts, so all that is signified in the contact will be an ongoing theme for the year.

The natal North Node is conjunct the Solar Return Moon, so domestic and family concerns are again highlighted and underscored. The Moon rules the fifth house, so fluctuating issues over children will be a focal point in many of the events taking place and this theme has also been repeated. Venus in the eighth house shows that transformations evolving will center around loved ones. Saturn in the second house indicates consolidations, a need for responsibility in finances, and the possibility of a temporary drain on the finances that should lead to greater maturity and better structure in that area. Further, Saturn's position in Aries suggested that it would be through his own initiation of activities that much of this would come about.

To briefly summarize events, Lee's remarriage took place eight days following the Solar Return. At the time, the transiting Sun was in the Solar Return chart's seventh house of marriage and trine to the return Moon-Neptune combination, symbolizing a time of harmony, ideals taking form, and, though transitory, blissful conditions.

Within three weeks of his marriage, Lee was forced to file for an emergency custody hearing to prevent his ex-wife from moving the children several states away. This necessitated coming up with a large amount of money to get the process rolling, but Lee was close to his children and could not fathom having them so far away. The emergency hearing took place exactly on the day that transiting Sun opposed return Saturn, reflecting the sobriety of the occasion, the involvement of the judge as an authority, and all of the financial connotations.

The final hearing was scheduled for the day that the transiting Sun was conjunct Mars on the ninth house cusp, but that hearing was delayed due to a plea from the defendant to gather supporting witnesses. Note again the Moon-Mars combination. The Moon implies fluctuations and suggests a feminine influence upon legal affairs while Mars shows the aggravation. The actual final hearing did not occur for another month and is reflected in the transiting configurations shown. Notice that the transiting Sun is in an Aries Point degree at 0 degrees Capricorn, reflecting the need for outsiders to become involved temporarily in

Lee's personal affairs. Its position on the very cusp of the eleventh house shows the importance of considering the polarity factor in return charts. This position brings in the opposite fifth-house concerns for children and their welfare. The Sun at this point also stimulates a natal square between Jupiter and Pluto, clearly reflecting the intensity of the event and the critical stage in developments. Fortunately for Lee, even with such a stressful aspect activated in the progressed chart, most of the configurations were beneficial, and thus he prevailed. The active progressed aspects corroborate the fortunate configurations in the Solar Return.

The judge's decision was some time in coming and, in fact, was not handed down until more than two months after the final hearing. The transiting Ascendant at the time of the trial had showed Lee's next natal planet to rise to be Saturn, thus delays were to be anticipated. Saturn in this instance also reflected the important consequences of the judgment itself. When the decision was reached the Sun was transiting the first house of the Solar Return, exactly trine the ninth house cusp. A trine to Mars while opposing the seventh-house Sun reactivated the natal conjunction of the two, indicating potential for important developments. Further, an opposition of the Sun to its own position is usually a time of peaking activity, when previous efforts result in success or failure. Several other aspects are active as well, including a trine to the natal Moon also on the ninth house cusp of the return chart.

The Moon, the Sun, and Mars are all combined in favorable aspect in the natal chart. Reinforced as they are in the return through a reestablishment of aspect and prominent positioning shows not only that such natal potential would be brought to the forefront but also reflects the judge's decision in Lee's favor.

By referring to the progressed chart, illustrated in chapter 2, it is clear that Lee was under mostly favorable aspects. If he were about to lose his children, the active aspects in that chart would have shown severe afflictions involving the Moon, Saturn, and Venus. Reading the Solar Return based on what has been gathered from the progressed chart makes it a fairly simple task to predict an accurate outcome. The Sun is free of affliction and instead makes several favorable aspects. The trine between the Sun and the Moon is especially indicative of continued harmony and a key aspect in regards to the issue at hand. Both the Sun and Mars have the wonderful assistance of the North Node and Mars was key to issues of the ninth-house legal concerns. With the natal Moon there also, it showed legalities that would have an impact on the family, and the natal

Moon was brought into one of the best configurations in the chart. ~~The Solar Return~~ compliment to the Solar Return and is covered in detail in chapter 5.

One of Lee's Lunar Returns for the same year will be illustrated a bit further on to show how some other important events reflected in the Solar Return took place in timing with the lunar cycle.

Solar Return Series

The most popular compliment to the Solar Return is the series of thirteen Lunar Returns falling within the year. The Lunar Return acts as a bridge, connecting the everyday fluctuations and events to bring about the potential shown in the Solar Return.

This chart can be compared against the natal as well as the Solar Return. Important connections between planets in the Lunar Return chart to those in the Solar Return provide many details.

Within this series, there will usually be one or more charts that closely match the Solar Return, by rising sign, house cusps, and major planetary positions. It can be identified as likely to be the most eventful period of the year and one may anticipate the unfolding of significant events that were promised in the Solar Return. Other special factors to look for would be the position of a planet in an Aries Point degree or in one of the degrees related to the Aries Point degree. Dynamic events relating to this planet will take place. The house ruled by such a planet and all factors surrounding it should be examined. In this work the Lunar Return is used as the

The other return series and compliment to the Solar Return is the Anlunar Return. Rather than tracking the natal Moon you would track the Solar Return Moon as it returns every twenty-eight days to the position it held in the Solar Return chart. The Anlunar is outlined in the preceding chapter.

The Solar Return Moon

A great deal of detail can be found about the Solar Return period by the sign and house position of the Solar Return Moon along with the aspects it makes. The following should prove quite helpful in determining the specific environmental factors during the Solar Return period. As the quickest of all the moving bodies, the Moon acts as a gauge to reflect the minute fluctuations and stimuli within the environment on a daily basis. By its sign and house position, the Solar Return Moon reveals what to anticipate in regard to personal and domestic circumstances during the coming year. It tells of the tempo within the home, of personal concerns and reflects the responses we invoke from others. The sign of the Solar Return Moon indicates one's sensitivity to emotional issues. For example, a Cancer

Moon sign is more sensitive than a Moon Return. Considering these subtleties alongside the major themes in the return in Aquarius. often pays off in specific event predictions.

Generally, if the Solar Return Moon makes squares to many of the natal planets, especially to the natal Moon or Ascendant, there is a need to make some personal adjustments in order to appreciate the current potential. Such a necessity is usually apparent near the onset of the return. If the Moon makes a fortunate aspect to its natal position, activities and environmental circumstances do not require as much adjustment on an emotional level.

A New Moon in the Solar Return indicates a fresh inflow of energy and new beginnings related to its house position. There is a sense of invigoration and renewed stamina. This is linked to the natal house where the New Moon occurs and will, of course, align with the natal Sun.

The potential to bring into balance the opposite elements of the human nature and to form lasting alliances is unsurpassed. The Full Moon represents a peak of out-rushing energy. Something has gone full circle and a completion is at hand. This process will take place relevant to the house and sign positions of the Sun-Moon pair and consequences shown in the aspects they receive.

The following summary provides some basic themes stemming from the sign and house position of the Solar Return Moon. They illustrate the backdrop upon which the more major events of the year will be played out, as shown by the overall Solar

If the Solar Return Moon falls in the sign Aries, some totally new element can be expected in connection with one's domestic environment and the position represents a sense of adventure or personal enterprise in connection with the home. A sign of independence, it often coincides with striking out on one's own, building a home, or going in some new direction that affects to the domestic experience. There is usually a masculine influence upon the daily affairs and domestic life. If the Moon in Aries is afflicted, there are apt to be various conflicts and/or an aggressive personality nearby.

When the Solar Return Moon falls in Taurus, some degree of creature comforts can be anticipated. "Peace and tranquillity" may become one's personal slogan as activities center around the creation of a relaxing atmosphere. Purchases are made to improve the quality of living and concerns run along the lines of adding stability to the domestic scene. Someone of a generous nature may influence daily affairs. Financial circumstances are apt to improve unless the Moon is greatly afflicted. All of the senses are in particular need of satisfaction and the appetite

is likely to increase. If adverse aspects show it, one may become inactive and out of shape.

The pace picks up with the Solar Return Moon in Gemini and fluctuations are at hand. It may be difficult to stick to one course. The sign frequently reflects a regrouping of energies in order to progress upon the proper path. A job change or short distance move may take place. Interaction with close relatives and those around the neighborhood becomes part of the everyday routine. Agreements, paperwork, and communications are time-consuming and one may feel hard-pressed to tend to daily demands effectively. If afflicted, the nerves are likely to become frayed and there's a tendency toward unreliability. Gossip may consume time and energy.

A Cancer Solar Return Moon reflects nurturing impulses. While one often plays this role, there is often someone else in the picture that nurtures or "mothers" as well. Events put an emphasis on the role of motherhood and such responsibilities are generally a source of joy. The placement frequently coincides with having a child but may also indicate a child returning home or moving nearby after an extended separation. Real estate might be purchased during the year of a Cancer Moon. For a man, the position indicates concerns centering on the women in his life. If the Moon is in adverse aspect, parenting problems may arise or a concern for one's mother.

The Solar Return Moon in Leo indicates

warmth and happiness in the domestic atmosphere. A nice position for the Moon, it reflects ease of emotional expression and frequently coincides with a new devotion or center of attraction. This might be a child, a sweetheart, an artistic creation, or a hobby. One may come under the limelight, possibly receiving some honor or title. Often there is an emphasis on the breadwinner of the family and, for a woman, may correspond with a focus on her husband. Vitality is usually excellent, with an increase of energy and feeling of well-being. If the Moon is afflicted, one's vitality may be drained, usually due to ignoring personal desires in favor of supporting another's.

The Solar Return Moon falling in Virgo brings an emphasis to the details of life. An ongoing concern for regimented hygienic practices, exercise, or diet is common. An interest in health maintenance usually means an increase in various checkups. Having things running smoothly in the household is a priority and one devotedly tackles chores before they get out of hand. There may be a constant sense of "preparation." With an accent on service, one takes on more responsibilities, either through extra duties on the job, volunteer work, or another service for which there is little

monetary compensation. ~~The Solar Return~~ comes from performing services and a meticulous job is done on any assignment. With adverse aspects, the daily routine may become tedious or unsatisfying, resulting in a critical attitude or martyrdom, or someone else may play this role.

A Libra Solar Return Moon reflects cooperation and harmony within the domestic environment. Aesthetics are particularly gratifying to the senses and art objects especially appreciated. An interest in decorating the home is common and both time and money may be spent to make the immediate environment a place of harmony and beauty. The senses are unusually active in detecting minor imbalances in the environment. Disturbances, whether material or otherwise, may cause an inability to relax until corrected. Social events are usually on the upswing and entertaining at home more frequent. Having someone to share favorite activities with is a prime concern and satisfying relationships are sought out. Women play a central role during the year. With adverse aspects to a Libra Moon, relational problems may erupt in order to restore balance and harmony.

With the Solar Return Moon in Scorpio there is a new element in the domestic routine as a result of major modifications or transformational processes. For the most part the changes are for the better and bring about the removal of some unwanted element. This position frequently follows a year when stress was in evidence and there is often a sense of relief in connection with the revisions that have occurred. Even when the changes are not desired, they

bring with them opportunities as yet unrealized. Physical revamping within the home is another possibility with a Scorpio Moon. Something physical within the home may break down or need to be replaced, such as appliances or pipes in the plumbing system. There may be concerns over shared resources or sexual compatibility. If the Moon is afflicted, a sense of loss is followed by gradual recovery. Occasionally, surgery may be required with this position.

A Sagittarius Solar Return Moon appears frequently when a great deal of change will be taking place. Another sign reflecting obscurity, it indicates a time of fluctuation and a recharging period for emotional energies. Employment changes are a possibility, sometimes leading to educational developments. The position frequently reflects taking up new studies, schooling, or an expansion of other interests in preparation for the future. Long-distance travel is common and a move is sometimes signified. Long-distance relatives or friends may play a central role in activities, moving nearby or

visiting for an extended time. If the Solar Return Moon is afflicted in Sagittarius, there may be a crisis of indecision regarding future goals. Legal concerns may also arise with this position.

With the Solar Return Moon in Capricorn, there is an accent on responsibilities and status. The position frequently coincides with an increase in status or a time when one's reputation is on the line, so to speak. There is a need for emotional control and for setting a good example. Interaction with others of a business type is tied in with domestic concerns, and this placement might reflect getting a mortgage. Some degree of consolidation, restriction, or limitation is in evidence, and the domestic routine may suffer from the somewhat hampering involvement of an authority figure or an elderly person. Having a parent move in would be appropriate with this Moon. With an afflicted Moon in Capricorn, a sense of failure or emotional depression may be noticed.

With an Aquarius Solar Return Moon there is a sense of "being at home" within a group. Sometimes the family circle itself takes on the qualities of a group. This might be through the addition of someone into the family unit or through projects and shared goals. More frequently, this Moon reflects a special closeness with friends and an increase in social affairs. There may be new interest in issues of a humanitarian nature and again these are shared and explored within a group setting. New technologies, gadgets, or concepts are

introduced, becoming part of the daily routine. Such might be the case with the addition of the latest in electronics, personal computers, or establishing connections on the Internet. With an afflicted Moon in Aquarius there may be breaks with groups or friends, or dissatisfying experiences in connection with new techniques.

With the Solar Return Moon in Pisces, some routine aspect within the domestic sphere is coming to a close to be replaced by new conditions. An old element dissolves or fades away while new conditions begin forming. Several possibilities exist as the root of changing circumstances. A move might mean giving up old friends and acquaintances and establishing new ones. A change of jobs also results in dissolving associations and the forming of new connections. Travel of some kind is frequently associated with this Moon position. A Pisces Moon is sometimes indicative of drug and alcohol involvement and, if afflicted here, there could be health conditions requiring rehabilitation. The loss of a loved one may occur as the result of a long-term illness. There is usually some element of weakness or fragility indicated by a Pisces Moon.

The house position of the Solar Return Moon shows where changes are taking

place as well as showing where the emotions are most sensitive. It also shows the types of experiences that are needed and attracted during the coming year. If the Moon appears exactly on one of the angles of the return chart, personal, domestic, and family concerns will be prominent issues for the period. These are the first, fourth, seventh, and tenth cusps. Because house polarities are more pronounced in returns, it is sometimes helpful to consider the description of the opposite house as well as the house in which the Moon actually lies.

If the Solar Return Moon falls in the first house^ the emotions lie just beneath the surface and are easily stimulated. One is changeable and supersensitive to everyone and everything in the environment. Personal feelings, moods, and attitudes may change at the drop of a hat. Due to an increased sensitivity to the needs of others, there is potential to profit through public involvement or by catering to the needs of the public. Family and home are focal points and change within may require a greater amount of attention and energy. With an afflicted Moon in the first, allowing others too great an influence upon decisions or an overly subjective demeanor could result in problems.

With a second-house Solar Return Moon, the emotions are generally stable, though they are tied up with financial security. Fluctuations in earned income may show an increase or a decrease, but it will probably not remain the same. Sensitive about accumulating resources, there may be emotional dependency linked to monetary affairs and the ability, or lack thereof, to increase earnings. Strangely, however, no amount of increase is likely to satisfy the emotions. Expenditures should be expected to increase with a second-house Moon. Emotional decisions may reflect important changes in one's overall value system, with new choices about how

to spend one's time, energy, or money. With an afflicted Moon in the second house, there may be a temporary block on the amount of income one is able to earn. This may be due to company changes, illness, or another factor.

With a third-house Solar Return Moon, the emotions influence the decision-making process. The immediate environment becomes an important focal point. A move often takes place, thus necessitating this involvement as one goes about getting reestablished in a new area. There may also be concerns or interests centering on siblings, relatives, or neighbors. One may develop sensitivity for the needs of young people or their schooling and efforts to be of assistance shows an emotional involvement. Central activities may require changes or solutions regarding transportation. Emotions may be somewhat dependent on an

excessive need for freedom to come and go as desired. An unusual amount of communication is part of the everyday routine and with adverse aspects, problems could arise in connection with agreements or signed documents.

the Solar Return Moon in the fourth house, one is wrapped up in home and family issues. A natural position for the Moon, this is where one depends on finding emotional security and satisfaction within the family unit. Fulfillment is found through activities and time spent with the family and there is little desire to be elsewhere. Changes that take place within the home and family may seem to have a greater personal effect than ever. It is a time for subjective review of one's foundations, inner strength, and fortitude. Afflictions with this Moon position may reflect various problems of a consuming nature with family members and within the home.

With a fifth-house Solar Return Moon, there may be sensitivity issues regarding children and their behavior or treatment. They may be undergoing changes themselves. It might be a year when one gets great emotional satisfaction from sporting activities or from a creative project or hobby. Romance is another area to anticipate activity. If available, one might very well meet a life-mate or important romance. Becoming too emotionally dependent on such a relationship or an inability to view the relationship realistically could lead to problems with adverse aspects.

With the Solar Return Moon in the sixth

house, fluctuations take place on the job and one may be emotionally sensitive to coworkers and the duties of the job. There are generally many fluctuations involving schedules, personnel, and job duties. New policies or a rearrangement of personnel are common. A new job may begin, but a sixth-house Moon does not usually coincide with the loss of a job. Diet, exercise, and health routines may be areas of personal involvement. Concerns for a pet are possible. Afflictions to a sixth-house Moon may coincide with the illness of someone close.

A seventh-house Solar Return Moon reflects various relationships needs, many of which are undergoing changes. A need for emotional support from another or the need to furnish emotional support is usually in evidence. Other people and their concerns become an area of some sensitivity. New relationships are formed and one of the most common occurrences is to establish a true partnership, such as the type that results in a marriage or business enterprise. Be wary of dependency issues here. A badly afflicted Moon in the seventh may indicate the severing of an important relationship or the cultivation of an enemy.

With the Solar Return Moon in the eighth house, there are fluctuations in the

area of shared resources. It is a sensitive area and the amount of money earned by one's partner is likely to either increase or decrease. There may also be concerns and activities regarding taxes, insurance, and loans. Paying off debts or loaning money may become sensitive issues. Another common indication with this Moon position is increased attention on sexual issues. There may be changes in the sexual desires or partners become out of sync. Generally, both the financial and sexual themes will be in evidence and sometimes the two are closely linked. With an afflicted Moon in the eighth, recovery from loss leads to new opportunities.

If the Solar Return Moon falls in the ninth house, old belief systems may be modified, as one tends to feel the rightness of beliefs at an emotional level. Philosophical or religious concepts are likely to play an integral part in the daily routine. One might also be moving or doing a lot of extended travel or such activities may revolve around someone who has previously been part of the domestic sphere. In either case, the emotions are highly sensitive and influenced by these activities. The move or travel taking place may be connected with educational activities or job opportunities. With an afflicted Moon, leaving a job may be followed by a period of temporary unemployment or there are unsatisfactory elements connected to travel or educational activities.

With a tenth-house Solar Return Moon, there is a greater need for emotional control. There is the definite possibility of coming into public eye, often due to an increase in status and under the watchful eye of superiors or the public, one must remain poised. It is a wonderful position for receiving publicity and recognition if the Moon forms favorable aspects.

Sometimes a personal or family issue will come out in public. Opportunities for advancement may come through important associations and while achievements are recognized, mistakes or errors are also highly magnified and will not go unnoticed or overlooked. Check the aspects to this Moon.

An eleventh-house Solar Return Moon indicates that emotional sensitivity may revolve around a new personal goal or project. Some emotional struggles may result, as one must make choices between striking out in new directions or continuing on a previous path. It is a time of changing dreams. There might also be changing circumstances in important associations and groups. Often new connections come about as a result of the professional activities. Additional benefits or resources may become available through group associations. One's personal status within a group is subject to change. Socializing and enjoyable times with friends are usually notable. New

friendships and associations are established as old ones are outgrown.

The Solar Return Moon in the twelfth house shows a time of some obscurity and self-reflection. More than ever there is a need for a quiet and soothing atmosphere in order to get in touch with one's inner feelings. Seclusion and time spent alone are productive as well as preferred. It is a time of winding down and getting emotionally recharged for a new cycle of activity. Behind the scenes activities and projects usually take place. This position of the Moon sometimes coincides with drug and alcohol involvement and occasionally reflects erroneous judgment, which can have serious consequences. Afflicted, someone may spend time recovering from an illness.

Good aspects to the Moon show popularity and a positive response from others, while adverse aspects may indicate the opposite. If the Moon is once more contacting several of the same planets that it was linked to in the natal chart it is a year of some importance. The environmental factors for the year will invite some of that natal potential to surface. It doesn't matter if the aspects are the same, only that there is a repeating link. Consider the significance of the natal aspect to judge the kinds of experiences coming due.

If the Solar Return Moon is conjunct a natal planet, the nature of the two combine, either harmoniously or inharmoniously. These links as well as aspects formed by the Solar Return Moon to other return planets show how effectively one expresses

feelings and the responses attracted from others. Any links to the Solar Return Moon are quite important since they indicate conditions affecting the domestic sphere and private affairs for the whole year.

The Solar Return Moon with the natal Sun is a New Moon. It usually reflects masculine/feminine issues and the coming about of exciting new conditions or circumstances. The presence of Mercury with the Moon might mean travel issues or a visit from a relative. With Venus, there is increased sensitivity to the environment, relationships, and a young woman will influence the daily affairs. With Mars, individuality is stimulated and an ambivalent arousal of the emotions are often indicated. Frequently, this aspect coincides with some degree of upset to domestic conditions and a masculine influence upon these. With Jupiter, expansion takes place within the home and opportunities to enjoy and strengthen family relationships arise. With Saturn, emotional control is strengthened and a business connection may affect the quality of the domestic scene. With Uranus, a surprising set of circumstances will have an impact on the family sphere. With Neptune, an increased sensitivity may find

one responding to minute stimuli from an intuitive level. With Pluto, the feelings are intense and the desire is to make changes in the domestic environment.

For more on the individual aspects, please refer to chapter 1 and the aspects of the progressed Moon. The indications are the same and can be applied to the interpretation of the Solar Return Moon's aspects.

The Solar Return Moon will also progress through the chart at the rate of 1 degree per month. Tabulating this motion of the Moon will reveal important months as it crosses an angle or makes important aspects. Whenever the progressing Moon forms an exact contact with another planet, it will be reflected in the events taking place.

Chapter Five

THE LUNAR RETURN

Symbolism of the Moon

Because the Moon is an indicator of the daily life tempo, reflecting areas of fluctuation and changing circumstances as they are happening, the Lunar Return chart reveals minor phases of experience. This twenty-eight- day cycle fills in the gaps from one major phase of experience to the next. We don't usually wake up one day to find ourselves living in a completely new scenario. New scenarios are created from the fibers of daily events, from our responses to stimuli, and the small choices we make. Once enough of those fibers are wound together, they become threads and, eventually, the winding cord of life stretching into the future. An analogy is found in the steps taken to achieve a major goal. It requires the achievement of many smaller targets, which eventually leads to the overall goal.

When an upcoming Solar Return shows a theme quite different than the current reality or beyond what one can conceive of, the Lunar Returns just prior to the new Solar Return are very effective tools in ferreting out the source of the new theme. This is easy to fathom when one understands that the solar cycle reflects important

turning points in regard to fulfilling the individual life purpose. In one way or another, this is what we all are striving for, whether consciously aware of it or not. For most of us, many avenues are explored in this attempt before the right one is found. Even then, we may try various methods to speed our personal concept of success.

The squares and opposition formed from the transiting Sun to the natal Sun correspond with climaxes in these attempts. The first square, following the birthday by three months, coincides with a peak of experience relating to our present course of action. Generally, we have either established a whole new route near the last birthday or we have made modifications, additions, or alterations to the same course we have been following for some time. This first square is when we see the initial results of those efforts. It is at this stage that we find things moving along as planned or encounter glitches. This is the time to make any needed modifications in our course and methods.

At the opposition, another peak occurs and we see the result of efforts for the previous six months. This is a point of culmination and at this time we experience a sense of success or failure as dictated by the events taking place. Now we may choose to continue our course if we have succeeded, but if we have failed we must cut our losses and reflect on what we have learned so as to be better prepared for the next major phase.

At the last square of the transiting Sun, three months prior to the birthday and as the current phase is winding down, another peak occurs. This one corresponds to a stimulus that will be absorbed and nurtured internally in preparation for the next new cycle. If we have progressed along successfully, something occurring at this point may introduce us to additional methods to apply in the future. If we were unsuccessful in the previous attempts, it is at this point that we begin to think about and prepare for a new course of action. In either case, notable experiences at this crucial stage offer clues and point us in the direction that we are likely to follow a bit later. The seeds of contemplation are planted.

Now, sometimes these seeds are very quietly planted and there are no neon lights flashing specific instructions. Often, one must look to find these messages. Initially, one should count backwards from the birthday exactly three months and then extend this date on each side by a few days. Take note of any significant occurrences and especially to any stimuli that made a noticeable impression. Follow this up with a look at the three Lunar Returns leading up to the birthday. If a considerably different theme is found in the new solar cycle as compared to the last, it will be in one of

these three charts that the initial turning point is reflected.

One particular story of fairy-tale dimensions illustrates this well. A single woman had a Solar Return coming up that showed an entirely new trend in her life. Virtually every area was affected for the better and was unlike any period in her life up to that point. The new chart showed a happy if not actually blissful partnership and love life. It showed financial ease and comfort, something she had never experienced. It showed a move, an ideal environment, and a higher standard of living. Travel and vacations were highlighted and, all in all, there were virtually no problems that could be found in the chart. It looked too good to be true—a Cinderella-meets-Prince Charming theme! Though she was approaching middle age, a look at her natal chart indicated that such happiness was a potential even if it had not yet happened. Progressions and outer planetary transits also agreed.

As this true story goes, new scenarios are sometimes created almost overnight. As reflected in the Lunar Return, nearly two months before her birthday, she met the love of her life on a blind date. It was one of those soul-bonding unions. Both she and her new partner knew immediately that they belonged together for the rest of their lives. The relationship developed at top speed and within two weeks following her birthday, she was engaged and all of the

new Solar Return patterns were in evidence. A move and marriage followed close behind, and the two are still living “happily ever after” several years later!

The Lunar Return indicating this turning point was such a duplication of the upcoming Solar Return that any novice would have identified the signs. Now, does this mean that the meeting was fated, karmic, or destined to be? What if she had chosen not to go on the blind date? How would the potential have then been fulfilled? We may only be able to theorize on the possibilities. Chances are, another date would have been arranged or they would have met some other way because the chart indications were quite profound, and the same themes were strongly repeated in all four variations of the returns. It is possible that while all events are based on previous choices, some are destined to be. These may be reflected primarily by nodal connections. In this particular scenario, several nodal connections were found, including a close conjunction of Venus, Jupiter, and the North Node on the fifth house cusp of the Lunar Return and Saturn upon the natal North Node in the fifth house.

And, as long as we’re on the subject of romance, let’s contemplate a bit further. For an astrologer, there are often questions about meeting the right person

following closely upon the heels of a separation or divorce. When a man's chart shows problems with and through women, the word "women" is plural. Generally the major problem is with one woman, but if he takes notice, his relationship with his mother isn't going so well either, and all of his relationships with females leave a bit to be desired. As above, so below. This is why "rebound" relationships seldom survive. It takes a very unique pattern in the skies to allow a thriving new intimate relationship at the same time another is dissolving. Even when the skies are apparently cooperating, the new relationship has no guarantee and seldom makes it for the long haul. Having patience until fortunate aspects have replaced problematic ones is probably the wiser choice.

So, all of this is not to say that major events cannot be found in the Lunar Returns. They obviously can be. Every major event that takes place falls under a Lunar Return cycle, in addition to other planetary cycles and when a major event is coming due, the Lunar Return can be used to help pinpoint the time it will arrive.

Interpreting the Lunar Return

The Lunar Return is useful in several ways. It should first of all be looked over for the most obvious features and with the natal planets inserted. For any specific event to transpire, it will be signified several times in the Lunar Return, although some of the events may actually be "happening" to the people around us. If the Lunar Return closely matches the natal chart, by rising sign and degree, it is likely to be an especially significant month.

The same tools are used to read a Lunar Return as a natal chart. Tight configurations and their meanings should be noted and the overall chart pattern studied. The ruler of the return Ascendant is of primary concern as well as the most

elevated planet in the chart, whether east or west of the Midheaven. The most elevated planet is not necessarily more important than a planet close to an angle, but if there is no great emphasis to another planet, it may be given precedence. A planet in the return that aspects both the Sun and the Moon is of special importance, showing a response of that planet on two significant levels: the instinctive or personal level, as well as an essential and individual level. Such a planet may signify the kinds of activities in which both the personality and individuality find satisfaction.

The rising sign should be carefully considered since the personality will take on many of the characteristics of the sign, and events will emphasize attributes of the sign. Use of some leading key words for the sign begins the interpretation.

In judging the Ascendent or any of the houses, the fixed signs bring qualities of stability or permanence, mutable signs show fluctuations or a preparatory stage, and cardinal signs indicate personal action. Blending the elements reveals an initiation of activity if a fire sign; practical concerns if an earth sign; intellectual interests if an air sign; and psychological issues if a water sign. Further consideration of the particular sign will bring even greater definition to the rising sign as well as to each of the individual houses and the affairs they govern. If Scorpio were rising, one would know that it is time for change. Such changes stem from psychological needs and are likely to be permanent and/or result in an increase or initial decrease in stability.

The signs on the angles will normally lead the chart unless there is a heavily occupied sign or house, in which case the sign characteristics and/or issues pertaining to the emphasized house usually reveal the trend for the month.

The natal house that is brought to the Ascendant position of the return is most important and should be a preliminary consideration. Since the Ascendant is an area of energy manifestation, conditions and environment will provide an ideal outlet for events and issues associated with this natal house to surface. The people, issues, and affairs of that house will be a major point of activity for the upcoming period. Using brief keywords and phrases

is sufficient and the best method is to make notes upon the Lunar Return next to the findings.

The house occupied by the Moon in the return illustrates an area of sensitivity and fluctuations. In return charts the house polarity factor must also be considered since opposing houses represent two different poles of the same principle. In other words, while the house occupied by the Moon is most revealing, the people and affairs governed under the opposite house will also be relevant.

To add more substance to a simple interpretation of the house occupied by the Moon, a few other guidelines are valuable. Pivotal circumstances and the deepest personal affairs correspond with the angular houses: one, four, seven, and ten. These correspond with turning points and increased activity as conditions are changing and things are happening! The succedent houses—two, five, eight, and eleven—can be counted on to represent issues involving resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions, finalities, and the opportunity for stabilization. The cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. These are the third, sixth, ninth, and twelfth houses. While it is a somewhat obscure area of the chart, preparations made at this latter stage promote personal growth and are crucial

to later developments. Steps taken by an individual with the cadent positions often remain in the background and do not reach full maturity until a later stage in their development, sometimes corresponding with the onset of the next Lunar Return.

To further define the houses, consider the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses. They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

If the return chart shows the Moon on an angle, tightly configured, or in conjunction with several other planets, it will be quite an eventful month and the return period is likely to start out with a burst of activity. If the Moon is in an angular house, the first ten days of the return period will be particularly emphasized. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle portion of the

return period that shows an increase in activities and the latter portion of the period will be accentuated if the Moon falls in a cadent house. While the house position of the Moon is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for any heavy concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

The planet(s) forming the closest conjunction (s) with any of the four angles of the return should be given precedence in determining actual events coming due. The symbolism of these planets will reflect the affairs transpiring over the course of the period. Of the angles, the first and tenth house cusps are indicate more energy production than the fourth or seventh, unless there are additional factors to consider. The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so events linked to the nature of a planet are given a superb outlet. These angular planets reveal major themes for the period according to the planetary nature and its aspects.

As with any return, the natal planets should be inserted onto the wheel to find any important ties to return planets or house cusps. They will add to the interpretation of the return. Natal planets on an angle of the return are also provided

an ideal outlet for natal potential to manifest and just as significant as a return planet on an angle.

A month in which the Lunar Return shows the Moon resuming contact with several planets with which it was in natal aspect is of considerable importance and a number of memorable events will occur. Conditions and circumstances that arise during this return period provide an opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized. The type of link is not as important as the fact that a connection has been reestablished. If using a chart with a graph, circle any aspects in the graph that link planets in the return chart that were also in natal aspect. Assign some key phrases to these aspects. Even a novice will be impressed with his or her forecasting abilities before the month is out.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always bear in mind the natal relationship of the Moon to another planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect in the return. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the potential of a later aspect between two planets. If, for example, the Moon is in square in the return chart to a planet that it was in natal opposition, the potential for stressful sensitive issues is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of a natal trine, but whatever issue arises can be smoothed out fairly easily and leaves no

upsetting emotional residue. Conversely, a return trine from the Moon to a planet in which it was in natal square represents an opportunity to work through some of the sensitive issues indicated by the original aspect. While stress may still manifest, one should do whatever possible to remain objective in handling it. This promotes a healthier integration of the element, steadies the elemental energy, and leads to a matured handling of challenges. If the Moon repeats a promising aspect found in the natal chart, it reflects ideal conditions in which to use the potential.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Lunar Return itself. Planets that the Moon is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are the most likely to produce stress when the Moon forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two natively, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that the transiting Moon makes as it circles the return will show activity relating to that planet, but contact to a planet in which it was in return aspect will usually prove to hold greater significance. Aspects it forms to natal planets should also be noted, most specifically if tied to a return planet by

conjunction or lying on one of the angles of the return. Peaks in activity during the Lunar Return cycle will generally coincide with the Moon's transit across the angles of that chart.

Finer Points of Interpretation

The houses of the Lunar Return in which natal planets fall also reveal important details about the ensuing time period. If a return planet falls on a natal planet, then significant events relating to the house occupied by the pair will find them working together, either in harmony or discord. This is determined largely by the natures of the planets, their natal relationship, and by the aspects made to them in the return.

The first natal planet to rise to the Ascendant of the return chart will often set the precedence for events to follow, with the Sun, Venus, and Jupiter inclining to favorable times, benefits forthcoming, and pleasant social affairs. Saturn suggests business dealings, issues involving authorities, or could mean delays involving important matters. Each of the planets will stamp their personal signature to the time period when first to rise. If a planet lies within 5 degrees of the Ascendant, but occupies the twelfth house, it may be considered as the rising planet unless another planet lies closer to the Ascendant.

There is always a significant connection between a house of the return and its corresponding natal house. For instance,

the area of the natal chart that is found occupying the twelfth house of the return is an area that is temporarily secluded. There is an element of mystery here, a secret, or a missing piece of data. If it is the natal second house lying within the boundaries of the twelfth house of the return, one may need to refrain from disclosing a financial matter or could be awaiting the outcome of a financial issue. It may be wise to delay making important decisions in the area of finances until one is sure that all pertinent facts are known. If it were the natal fifth lying in the twelfth sector of the return, a child or lover could be in trouble, keeping a secret, or misleading one. Each of the houses of the return can be assessed using this method. It is always the natural planetary ruler of a house that lends the keywords to assess the potential. In the preceding, Neptunian vibrations influenced the affairs of the natal house that was rotated into the twelfth-house position. By simply inserting the number of the natal house at the corresponding return house cusp, it is easy to apply this technique.

A New or Full Moon appearing in the Lunar Return chart has special significance. The New Moon shows the birth of something new and a congealing of

energies in an area that usually stimulates enthusiasm. The sign and house position of the New Moon provides more detail, and unless there are many adverse aspects to the configuration, it is generally favorable. The Full Moon is indicative of completion. It often indicates the culmination of a cooperative effort according to the signs and houses involved. It often reflects some degree of tension, which results in great effort and an extreme expenditure of energy. The Full Moon is slightly less favorable than the New Moon, sometimes reflecting a discordant end to an issue or separating paths. All particulars must be considered.

Further assessment provides even greater detail. For example, if a planet in the return is within a degree of aspect to any house cusp, it represents either a line of assistance or challenge in regard to the affairs of that house. The nature of the planet along with the type of aspect determines this influence. Say that a planet forms an exact square to the return second and eighth house cusps. This shows potential reversals in the area of finance. It would be unwise to undertake activity associated with that planet on a day that the transiting Moon or another planet stimulates it as it could result in some degree of financial loss. Any planet falling on any house cusp will have much to “say” about the affairs of that house for the upcoming time period.

This might be either a natal or return planet and similar handling is indicated, depending on all pertinent factors surrounding such a planet. These planetary connections to cusps are very important.

Wherever Gemini is found in the return indicates an area of duplicity or multiplicity. If found on the second house cusp, there may be income from two sources; if on the seventh, two experts may need to be

consulted; if on the sixth, one may hold two jobs, have extra work coming in, and be spread exceptionally thin to meet service obligations. The same treatment can be given each house according to the nature of the sign on the cusp.

If one of the inner planets rules the Ascendant, and is retrograde at the onset of the return, chances for personal reversals are sometimes increased, frequently brought about through erroneous judgment. These chances are increased if the planet forms adverse aspects. This method can be applied to reveal general areas in need of review as suggested by an inner retrograde planet ruling or residing in a house. There could be delays or complications affecting the affairs occupied or ruled by one of these retrograde planets. Also, in this instance, should a planet pass over the degree it held in the return, whether by direct or retrograde motion, it will be a day of some significance in regard to the matters indicated.

If one of the Moon's nodes falls in conjunction with a return or natal planet, those planetary energies will manifest quite dynamically and associated issues will be emphasized during the return period. A conjunction of a planet with the North Node indicates a quality to be consciously developed while a South Node conjunction indicates a quality that is already part of the nature and requires little effort to make use of. Again, these nodal conjunctions are valid whether involving a natal or a return planet. The North Node falling on the return Ascendant provides many benefits for the period. One is easily able to lead, set the pace, and personal timing is excellent for gaining the support and cooperation of others. Falling on the cusp of the seventh house, one tends to "lean" on another. Chapter 21 covers the transits and aspects of the nodes at length and is followed by a table of the nodal positions through 2054.

Judging Points of Energy and Timing Activity

As the transiting Moon circles the return chart, its contacts to the various planets and points show when activity will surface. The return planet contacted by the Moon will have a bearing on the actual workings of affairs, and the particular influence can usually be timed very accurately to the day the contact is exact. In regard to these matters, there will often be two or more related events, the first occurring at the

Moon's conjunction to a planet and subsequent activity at the sextile, square, trine, and/or opposition, or, what begins at the conjunction may be taken a step further at the sextile and then finalized at the square or opposition. The hard contacts are generally more productive of activity than the softer sextile and trine.

Contacts of the Moon to the angles tell of major peaks in activity for the month. Activity begins to accelerate as the Moon approaches the angles, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away. The first and tenth house cusps are exceptional points of activity. It is also wise to anticipate important activity at the time the Moon contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction.

The Moon also stimulates and brings about an unfolding of activity associated with significant configurations within the return chart when the contacts become exact.

An unusually active time period is found when the Moon contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for energy, and the planet reflects an already unique set of circumstances energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy resulting is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle,

sign, planet, aspects, and house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If the Moon, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal the area and type of activity stimulated, although affairs tend to remain low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act to greatly stimulate any body that is nearby and often reflect events of special note.

Another point of emphasis is noted when the Moon enters the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since these positions of any planet or luminary are extremely sensitive. Called the *Aries Point degrees*, these include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of magnitude and far-reaching circumstances. There is worldly involvement in one's personal affairs and those outside the normal circle possess weighty influence. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or opposition from the transiting Moon to another planet or point in the return that lies in one of these Aries Point degrees. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time

and/or affairs have worldly connotations. Outside assistance may be required or a professional expert consulted. One thing is sure, though—whatever takes place will have a great impact and the event will be instilled in one's memory. Tabulate the exact dates that the transiting Moon makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points, since this provides an excellent opportunity to be in the right place at the right time.

Upcoming eclipses should be noted in case they stimulate an important configuration or point in the return chart. They are quite powerful even when occurring on a house cusp.

Using the Lunar Return with the Solar Return

In order to break down cycles and more accurately time important events, the Lunar Return can also be used in conjunction with the Solar Return. Using the Solar and Lunar returns together is far more effective for predictive purposes than using either of them alone. There are thirteen lunar periods that fall within the Solar Return period, each of which is predictive of the following four weeks. By using the Solar Return chart as a foundation, connections between it and the subsequent Lunar Returns will show the trend of events for each of the lunar periods.

The Lunar Return that most closely matches the Solar Return by house cusps and/or planetary configurations usually coincides with the most eventful and climactic time period for the year. Important issues and events signified in the Solar Return will usually peak during this Lunar Return period. Occasionally, more than one Lunar Return will meet this criterion during the year, indicating multiple peaks. As we saw in an earlier illustration in this chapter, occasionally a Lunar Return that matches the next Solar Return reflects important developments leading to the next phase of personal development. Important angular ties between the Solar and Lunar Returns should be noted for heralding critical times. For example, the Solar Return Midheaven falling on the Lunar Return Ascendant or vice versa. Other peaks are noted by connections between the angles of the Solar Return with the Lunar Return Sun.

The Lunar Return Sun falling on an angle of the Solar Return indicates an especially eventful four-week period. Similarly, when the Lunar Return Sun falls on a degree that activates an important Solar Return configuration, major yearly events indicated by the specific grouping will occur. Rather than simply referring to the motion of the Sun through the Solar Return, special consideration should be given the degree it holds in the Lunar Return. This is a cyclic point, and the exact placements of planets in the return charts are far more reflective of specific events

than simple transits.

This technique of superimposing the Lunar Return chart upon the Solar Return will supplement the Lunar Return chart reading. Detailed information comes to light through exact links made between the two charts that would otherwise go unnoticed, and timing can be better established. For example, if a marriage ceremony is indicated in the Solar Return, it is most likely to take place when the Lunar Return Sun lines up with the Solar Return seventh house. Venus and Mars together in the sign of Libra or positioned together in the seventh or tenth house of the Lunar Return would also be appropriate indicators for such an event. The marriage may be the individual's own or someone else's and such details can be found among the remaining chart indicators.

Similarly, being put in the spotlight in one's career is most likely to occur following a Lunar Return in which the Lunar Return Sun makes important connections involving the Solar Return tenth house. Events along these lines will be quite spectacular if the Lunar Return for the period finds the Sun on the cusp of the Solar Return tenth house. The days of the most important activity during the

Lunar Return period generally correspond with the Moon's transits across the angles of the Lunar Return chart.

One way to easily see the links between the two returns and also tabulate the natal patterns is to run a three-wheel chart, with the Solar Return in the center, the Lunar Return in the middle wheel, and the natal chart on the outside wheel. The alternate method is to make notes upon the Lunar Return, being careful not to overlook important details. This method assists in getting a "feel" for the trend. Ideally, both techniques can be used together.

The Lunar Return may also be used in corroboration with other planetary returns.

The Lunar Return at Work

We have previously seen both the progressed chart and the Solar Return chart belonging to Lee, who had several notable events occur within a short time. Now we will look at the Lunar Return prior to the most crucial developments.

Judgment in Custody Case

In this illustration (chart 8), it is the Solar Return chart in the inner wheel, the Lunar Return in the middle, and transiting planets are on the outermost wheel for the day the judge's decision was handed down regarding custody of Lee's two minor children. As an additional note, within several hours of these transiting configurations, Lee also found out that his new wife was expecting a child.

When working with the returns, it is

easier to see the connections with the charts side by side and to make notes upon the Lunar Return. In this illustration it is a bit difficult to see all of the connections. Still, a number of ties are clear.

The Solar Return Midheaven and Pluto have been brought to the Lunar Return Ascendant. Since a tenth-house Pluto in the Solar Return indicates a change of status as well as legal activity by its rulership of the ninth house and position in Sagittarius, it should be expected that some of that yearly potential will manifest within this Lunar Return cycle. Even if the Solar Return were not considered, the conjunction of Pluto to the Ascendant of the Lunar Return is quite a profound aspect and indicates transformations or regeneration of a deeply personal nature. However, combining the two factors shows more detail.

The Midheaven of the Lunar Return is conjunct the Solar Return Sun (and natal Sun) so another important angular connection is formed. The Lunar Return Sun is also conjunct the Ascendant of the Solar Return, always a point of eventful emphasis. It is in conjunction with Mercury and Jupiter. Again, legal activity and agreements are suggested as well as events concerning minor children. The

The Lunar Return

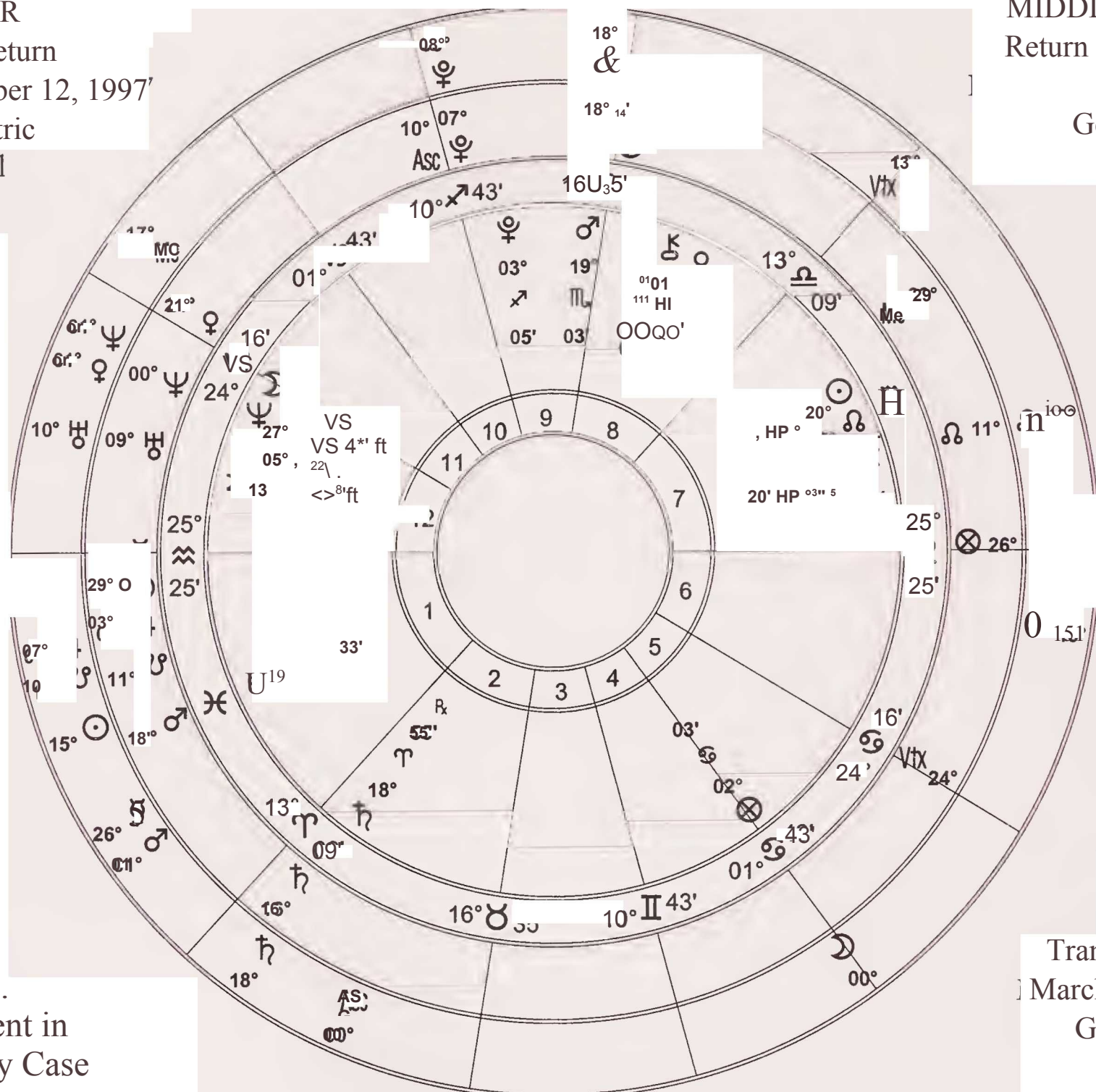
Sun rules the seventh house of the Solar indicated. In the illustration, the Lunar

CENTER
Solar Return
September 12, 1997
Geocentric
Tropical

MIDDLE Lunar
Return February
18, 1998
Geocentric

Chart 8.
Judgment in
Custody Case

OUTER
Transit Chart
March 6, 1998
Geocentric



Return, so partnerships and consultations are highlighted by the current angular position of the Sun. These included Lee's dealings with his ex-wife from the judgment handed down, dealings with his attorney, and learning that his new wife was expecting all within the same month. Notice also that the Lunar Return seventh house cusp has Gemini there to signify that two or more specific partnerships are

Return seventh house cusp is perfectly aligned with the Solar Return fourth house cusp to show the effect of these dealings upon the family sphere.

The ruler of the Lunar Return is Jupiter, which is in conjunction with the

Sun, ruler of the ninth house of the Lunar Return. Both are positioned to fill in a Grand Trine formation to the Solar Return Venus and Part of Fortune. The Lunar Return Part of Fortune is conjunct the Lunar Return ninth house cusp and conjunct the Solar Return seventh house cusp as well, so legal proceedings and partnership dealings might be expected to turn out in Lee's favor. To top it off, the first natal planet to rise to the Lunar Return Ascendant is Jupiter (not shown), indicating forthcoming protection and benefits. It forms an exact sextile to the Lunar Return Sun. The Sun, Jupiter, and Mercury all lie very nearly on the third house cusp of the Lunar Return, indicating both news and formal or informal agreements. Lunar Return Saturn lies in the fourth house of the chart, showing potential for an older person or authority figure to have some impact on Lee's family life at this time and quite representative of the judge in the custody case.

As shown in the outer wheel of the illustration, at the very time the judgment was handed down, the transiting Moon was in the seventh house of the Lunar Return while within 1 degree of the Solar Return fifth house cusp. It was within orb of a trine to Jupiter, the ruler of the Lunar Return. As importantly, it was in one of the Aries Point degrees at 0 degrees of Cancer, the sign of family and domestic affairs. The transiting Moon forms several ties to both the Solar Return planets and Lunar Return planets from this point. It is conjunct the Solar Return Part of Fortune, trine Venus, sextile Mercury, and quincunx Pluto. At the same time, it is trine the Lunar Return Mercury, Jupiter, and Sun, the latter of which is a repeating aspect found in the

Solar Return chart and an excellent indication of basic family harmony. Nearly all of the contacts reflect such a restoration.

This position of the transiting Moon is also rather interesting in light of the fact that on the day of the final hearing, nearly three months earlier, the Sun was also in an Aries Point degree at 0 degrees of Capricorn. (Those transits are shown in the earlier delineation in chapter 4.) This later position of the Moon and the opposition to the Sun position on that earlier day represents closure to the issue as is often indicated by a Full Moon configuration.

And the new baby? Both Mars and Venus rule the Lunar Return fifth house, which are sextile one another. The aspect is one of harmonious relationships with the opposite sex and of "coupling." They also both form beneficial links to the Moon, a basic indicator for the birth of children or parenthood. Although many other notable configurations are found among the charts, the foregoing should suffice for purposes of illustration in these events.

Chapter Six

THE MERCURY REECRN

Symbolism of Mercury

The return of Mercury occurs once a year near the time of the Solar Return. This chart foretells issues and events of a Mercurian nature. Mercury governs the environmental climate and various fluctuations on a daily basis, including commutes and both formal and informal interactions with others. It also reflects the thought processes, decision-making abilities, and the manner one uses in communicating with others. The Mercury Return is especially useful for determining the best time to handle such important activities as buying a vehicle, signing an agreement, taking a trip, or moving. For these and personal newsworthy affairs, this return is quite handy. Obviously, for those in Mercurian professions, it provides wonderful assistance. Due to its association with the mental processes, it offers everyone exclusive guidance for the year and, as it will be clear shortly, such crucial guidance should not be ignored.

The actual day of the Mercury Return will commonly correspond with a surge of activity involving communications, agreements, errands, and commutes. In fact, if the Mercury Return occurs within a day of one's birthday, the

forecast for the year includes an emphasis on travel, critical decisions, and important communications. The urge to make one's thoughts known and the ability to form solid connections via communication will be primary factors in the pursuit of personal goals for the year.

Interpreting the Mercury Return

The Mercury Return chart may be interpreted the same as any other, except that it is good only until the next Mercury Return and each factor has a bearing on one's important negotiations, communications, transport, thought processes, and so on. The house position of Mercury shows the affairs that will occupy the mind to a great extent, but the house polarity factor should also be considered. In other words, while the house occupied by Mercury is most revealing, the affairs governed under the opposite house will also be relevant.

If the return chart shows Mercury on an angle, tightly configured, or in conjunction with several other planets, it will be quite an eventful year for Mercury-ruled affairs and the return period is likely to start out with a burst of activity. If Mercury is in an angular house, the first one-third of the return period will be emphasized in regard to events associated with Mercury. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle portion of the return period that shows an increase in these activities, and the latter portion of the period will be accentuated if

Mercury falls in a cadent house. While the house position of Mercury alone is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for any heavy concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

The rising sign of the return provides an excellent indication of the probable affairs to transpire during the year in connection with Mercury. The natural house rulership of this sign tells the story. Aries rising is suggestive of personally initiated activities involving agreements and negotiations. Taurus indicates agreements in connection with the purchase of portable property and acquiring resources. Gemini rising shows an accent on short commutes, and environmental factors are apt to be in a state of great fluctuation. Leo rising shows a year of great importance since personal identity and ego are at stake. With Leo, Mercury-ruled activities bring one into the spotlight. If Virgo rises, there is an accent on errands and arrangements in connection with one's job or another area of responsibility. There may be a focus on details and analysis.

If Libra rises, one's partner, marriage or otherwise, has an impact on agreements that are made. Scorpio suggests a death and rebirth situation, and major transitions as a result of negotiations.

Community property is accentuated. Sagittarius brings an accent to long-distance travel, legal matters, and publishing affairs. Capricorn rising accentuates negotiations that are professionally related and authority figures play an important role. Aquarius brings an accent to humanitarian affairs. Important personal goals transpire, especially those shared with a group of individuals. Pisces indicates possible behind-the-scenes communications. It could show a psychological factor, perhaps a weakness in regard to making one's thoughts known. Exploring all of the potential of the rising sign will generally lead straight to the heart of matters.

To add more substance to a simple interpretation of the sign and house occupied by Mercury, a few other guidelines are valuable. Pivotal circumstances and deeply personal affairs correspond with the cardinal signs and the angular houses. There is generally a lot of activity. The fixed signs and succedent houses can be depended on to represent issues involving resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions and finalities. The mutable signs and cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. Issues evolving with these signs or positions highlighted remain in the background until a later stage in their development, often corresponding with the onset of the next return.

To further define the houses, consider

the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses. They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

Other indicators exist as well. If a move is to take place during the Mercury Return period, the Moon will often be in Aries, for example. If the move is to be of a long distance, the Moon might be in Pisces or Sagittarius. The Moon might also occupy one of these latter positions if extensive traveling will take place. Always tune in to simple keyword phrases for explanations.

The planet(s) forming the closest conjunction(s) with any of the four angles of

the chart should be given precedence in reading the chart. Of these, the first and tenth house cusps are more prominent positions than the fourth and seventh, unless there are additional factors to consider.

The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so events linked to the nature of the planet are given a superb outlet. These angular planets and their aspects reveal major themes for the period. For example, the benefic Venus on an angle can do little good if it forms several stressful aspects. Instead, it suggests an interruption to existing harmony and may tell of heartbreaking circumstances. In the Mercury Return, such a configuration could indicate agreements in a divorce.

As with any return, the natal planets should be inserted onto the wheel to find any important ties to return planets or return house cusps. They will add to the interpretation of the return. Natal planets on an angle of the return are also provided an ideal environment to manifest their potential.

The year in which the Mercury Return shows Mercury resuming contact with several planets with which it was linked in the natal chart is of considerable importance and a number of memorable events should occur. Conditions and circumstances that arise during this return period bring the opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always keep in mind the natal relationship of Mercury to a planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect. If, for example, it is in square in the return chart to a planet that it was in natal square, the potential for risky circumstances is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of

a natal trine, but whatever circumstances arise can be worked out more easily to one's advantage. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the actual workings of a later connection between two planets.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Mercury Return itself. Planets that Mercury is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are the most likely to produce stress when Mercury forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two in the radical chart, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that transiting Mercury makes as it circles the return will show Mercurian activity relating to the planet contacted, but stimulation to a planet in which it was in return aspect will usually prove of greater significance.

Mentality

That the Mercury Return reflects one's mental makeup and attitude for the coming year is no small matter, bringing this return to a level of some priority. To appreciate this, take into consideration the chameleon-like nature of this most transient planet. Since it takes on the quality of the planet most closely linked with it, the nature of such a planet lends superb insight to the functioning of Mercury itself and to all Mercury-ruled affairs for the duration of the return period.

If Mercury's closest aspect is to Uranus, for example, one is mentally stimulated, new or unusual ideas surface, spur-of-the-moment decisions are made, and daily affairs are handled somewhat spontaneously. If Mercury or Uranus rules the Ascendant, these characteristics will be in even greater evidence. This aspect also suggests unusual circumstances arising in connection with Mercury's affairs and one is prone to mental excitation. Sudden decisions made will either set one free or they may boomerang, depending on Mercury's overall condition and especially by its aspect to Uranus.

Consider, if you will, that the most closely aspecting planet is riding Mercury piggyback as it makes its circuit through the return chart. Using the previous example, every point that Mercury touches will also have the strong influence of Uranus, so that it becomes necessary to account for that additional energy as Mercury makes its

contacts. In this particular case, watch the places where Mercury will form squares or oppositions to other planets and points in the return, especially if it makes a station and lingers there, for this would be a wise time to practice some precautionary measures in the handling of one's daily affairs. At this and other times it would be advisable to remain flexible and allow for the probability of rapidly changing circumstances, suggested by Uranus, to alter the direction of plans. Of the aspects, a conjunction carries the most weight.

If Mercury is free of aspects in the return chart, it will take on characteristics associated with the sign it occupies. For a clearer interpretation, bear in mind the nature of the planet ruling the sign. The natal aspects of Mercury should be taken into account in any case since those will always be carried along.

Judging Points of Energy and Timing Activity

As transiting Mercury circles the return chart, its contacts to the various planets point to activity that will surface involving commutes, vehicles, and agreements (both legal and verbal). The return planet aspected by Mercury will have a bearing on the actual workings of these affairs, and the particular influence can usually

be timed very accurately to the day the contact is exact. In regard to these matters, there will often be two or more related events, the first occurring at Mercury's conjunction to a planet and subsequent activity at the sextile, square, trine, and/or opposition, or, what begins at the conjunction may be taken a step further at the sextile and then finalized at the square or opposition. The hard contacts are generally more productive of activity than the softer sextile and trine. Sometimes these recurrences coincide with contacts formed during Mercury's retrograde cycles, as well. In this case, it may be the first conjunction of Mercury to a planet that starts a process, with the result or finalization of the process at Mercury's last conjunction to the same planet.

Contacts to the angles tell of major peaks in activity for the year. Watch as activity begins to accelerate as Mercury approaches the angles, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away. It is like coming to a busy intersection. One meets with increased stimulation, encounters, and decisions to make. These peaks will generally include all of the functions of Mercury, so that there is not only more paperwork, contacts, and agreements to handle, but also more travel and personal concerns within the immediate environment. It is also wise to anticipate important activity at the time Mercury contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction.

Mercury also stimulates and brings about an unfolding of activity associated with significant configurations within the return chart. Suppose there is a close conjunction or trine of Venus and Mars, usually representative of an intimate relationship or sexual pairing. When Mercury passes over either of these planets, events will transpire to bring such a relationship into the limelight, and, in a Mercurian way, since Mercury is the key here. To take this illustration a step further,

suppose Mercury squares Mars both natively and in the return chart. A conflict, verbal or physical, is likely to play a large part in the unfolding scenario. Since Mercury naturally rules locomotion and Mars rules mechanics, if there are additional factors, by sign position, house position, or otherwise to define such a probability, the relationship may come about as the result of a travel accident or vehicle breakdown. Throw Pluto into the combination and the overall intensity increases, and the association will have quite karmic undertones as well. This scenario actually took place. The young woman, in whose chart these configurations were found, met a future boyfriend when she landed in a ditch off an icy country road during the wee hours of the morning. He happened to be driving his tow truck home from work when he found her stranded there.

An unusually active time period is found when Mercury contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for the energies of Mercury, and the planet reflects an already unique set of energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy that results is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle, sign, planet, aspects, and house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If Mercury, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal its influence, although things will remain rather low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act as an exclamation point to stimulate Mercury's activity and usually work to bring about some event of special note.

If the return chart holds several planets in nearly the same degree, although in different signs, it will be a sensitive degree. As Mercury reaches this degree in any of the signs, it will stimulate several planets all at once, thus the dates of these transits will generally correspond with more spectacular events.

Another point of emphasis is noticed at

the time Mercury makes its ingress to the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since this position of Mercury is unusually sensitive. The Aries Point degrees include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of far-reaching circumstances. There is worldly involvement in one's personal affairs. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or opposition from transiting Mercury to another planet or point in the return, which lies in an Aries Point degree. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time and/or affairs have worldly connotations. Outsiders tend to become involved in the personal affairs. In the Mercury Return, one's name may be in print, a will notarized, or news of great importance is received. A professional expert may be consulted or unusual circumstances arise in connection with transportation. Whatever transpires, it will be a memorable experience. Tabulate the exact dates that transiting Mercury makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points, since this provides an excellent opportunity to be in the right place at the right time or make important contacts with people. One of the sample charts later in this section illustrates a sensitive Aries Point degree.

Mercury's Transiting Aspects

As the Mercury impulse stimulates the particular expectancy of a planet in its journey through the return, events will transpire that show a blending of the planetary natures.

When Mercury contacts Venus, for instance, there is an influence of lightness and gaiety. This is an influence of lightness and gaiety, unless forbidden by other factors. Since Venus signifies young women, decorating, and finery, social affairs may center on one of these. With less desirable contacts, there may be minor problems connected with women or in communications with a loved one, and it is not the best time to shop for art, clothing, jewelry, etc.

When Mercury contacts the Moon, there may be important news or a visit from a family member or thoughts center on an important female figure. This particular contact in the return chart itself either contributes to or hinders the mental abilities in general and the fluency of one's communications. Subsequent contacts stimulate that potential. The Moon also suggests an appreciation for or concern over public opinion.

Contacts of Mercury to the Sun bring about some of the most important issues of the year, with the conjunction the most notable. Contacts with important people and the follow-up of personal goals are highlighted. Aspects to the Sun frequently

call attention to a male figure: father, husband, son, or otherwise.

With Mars, mental activity is stimulated and debates are common. These contacts often signal a surge of travel and sometimes the risk of mechanical mishaps, depending on the aspects. Mars is similar to the Sun in that these aspects sometimes reveal that the thoughts are focused on "masculine" affairs. Jupiter indicates the urge to take ideas a step further or put them to practical use immediately—a good time to utilize accumulated knowledge for immediate benefit. It is a superb aspect for writers and those involved in publishing and, like the Sun, Jupiter is associated with the meeting of influential persons. It often signifies religious or spiritual concepts and is associated with agreements involving legal ceremonies, such as marriage or divorce. It sometimes brings good news and is an aspect to capitalize on.

With Saturn, mental concentration and perseverance are enhanced and even the less desirable aspects of Saturn to Mercury will prove to be of some benefit in most cases. A Saturn aspect steadies the mind and lends a realistic approach to handling Mercury's affairs. When it comes to signing an agreement, buying a vehicle, or any other negotiation, choosing a time when Mercury is in favorable aspect to Saturn in the return is like taking out insurance against later problems—not a

bad thing to have. Whatever decisions are made at this time are fairly certain to be sound and that which comes into the life will be durable, and likely to be around for a long, long time. Saturn is often a factor when there is news of a delay, and it always represents a need for sober thought. It often provides an opportunity to attend to details, tie up loose ends, and make improvements with some final touches.

Mercury contacts to Uranus signify unexpected or unusual reasons to travel or run errands, and suggests particularly stimulating mental activity. New or unusual ideas surface, spur-of-the-moment decisions are made, and daily affairs are handled somewhat spontaneously. One is prone to mental excitation and should try to keep a calm frame of mind in decision-making.

With Neptune comes the potential for miscommunications or confusion if Mercury is in stressful aspect. These two in combination may also reflect upon the dissolution of an agreement. Travel is especially highlighted with this contact. With fortunate aspects, one may be intellectually inspired.

When Mercury transits Pluto, there may be issues requiring problem-solving and investigation. This is by far one of the most difficult planets for Mercury to outwit if activity is initiated while the two form a stressful aspect. It is advisable to plan important activities so they do not fall on the day of the square. If you must go out, carry your favorite crystal, fasten your seat

belt, and ask for patience. If nothing more, the lines will be immovable at the grocery store and the lotto machine will break down just as it's your turn to buy a ticket. For further details on planetary aspects, please refer to the transits of Mercury in part three.

Note that, as in reading a natal chart or any return chart, a subsequent link of two planets that were linked by aspect in the original chart hold greater priority. The original aspect may be expected to lead, and these contacts reveal times of potentially important events as indicated by the blending of the planetary natures.

Retrograde Mercury

Since Mercury goes retrograde about every four months, there is a good chance that it will make a station on an angle and/or planet of the return at least once. These retrograde cycles indicate a need for review and bring increased intellectual involvement to the affairs of the house of Mercury's transit and in relation to the nature of the planet it makes a station on. More time will be dedicated to handling these affairs, which may require paperwork, travel, or extended communication. A review of proper procedure will be in order before these matters can be neatly tied up, and these will very likely

be among the more outstanding accomplishments for the year.

While retrograde Mercury provides a wonderful opportunity to review and gain clarity on issues already underway, it is not a wise time to take up new activities that involve travel or contracts. Minimally, the aspects formed by Mercury during the retrograde period should be considered prior to making these types of new commitments. Doing so can prevent a lot of headaches.

If Mercury becomes retrograde shortly after the return period, there may be two or three Mercury Returns within a short interval, and this phenomenon represents circumstances of special note. If there are three returns, this individual is already heavily involved and caught up quite personally in a Mercury-governed issue. This is also likely if there are two returns, and in either case, the phenomenon verifies an immediate accent on Mercurian matters. It is interesting to see the shifts of energy from one return chart to the next, as each return reflects the maturing life experiences. The most recent return always shows activity leading to the next and should be referred to during the time period in which it is in effect.

Vehicles

Because Mercury is always involved in the purchasing of a vehicle, ruling not just vehicles, but signed agreements as well, a few particulars should be mentioned on the

subject. To begin with, the most favorable time to buy a vehicle is when all planets are traveling direct, and if this can be arranged, all the better. The simple but obvious reason for this is that car buying can be a long and tedious task. It usually takes a few hours minimally and one becomes absorbed in the details at hand. The last thing on your mind is what sign is rising and even an astrologer would find it difficult to stay in control of the timing of the events taking place. If one happens to be unfortunate enough, the exact time that papers are signed can later show a chart with undesirable factors. Hasn't this happened to us all on at least one occasion? One of these undesirable factors would be an afflicted and retrograde chart ruler. So, simple mathematics says that to avoid at least this one problem, shop when every planet is traveling direct if at all possible.

If one has the time and the inclination, plans can be made to sign papers at a time when the eighth house holds no malefic planets or afflicted planets, possibly reflecting an early or premature death of the vehicle. Above all else, shopping when transiting Mercury is making a favorable aspect to the Mercury Return Saturn is practically a guarantee of making a good purchase. Toss in a nice aspect to Mars to cover the mechanical

functions, and whatever other favorable contacts possible to the natal or return planets, and you'll have a long and happy relationship with your new vehicle. Having used astrology on a few occasions for making a car purchase and finding similar positive results in research charts indicates a real leading edge when these factors are considered.

The Mercury Return at Work

While it may seem overwhelming to keep all of the particulars in mind when first beginning an interpretation of the return, the process becomes much simpler in the actual implementation. Begin with the basics, and then add to the interpretation by considering the finer details. Following are a sampling of Mercury Returns, selected for the variety of Mercury-ruled events they reflect. The first delineation is quite simple and illustrates only the unfortunate timing for a change of residence.

A Relocation Goes Awry

In this return (chart 9), Mercury's closest aspect is a sextile to Uranus, an influence suggesting spontaneity and some exciting possibilities. It also indicates unexpected turns of events and a need for flexibility. Mercury also forms a sextile to Neptune and an opposition to Jupiter. Both of these planets usher in long-distance travel possibilities: one in appreciation, the other with caution. The Mercury opposition to Jupiter is an aspect repeated from the natal chart and the overall Mercury Return chart very closely matches the natal chart,

indicating an important year for Mercury-related events. The Moon in Sagittarius emphasizes wanderlust and the potential for long-distance relocation.

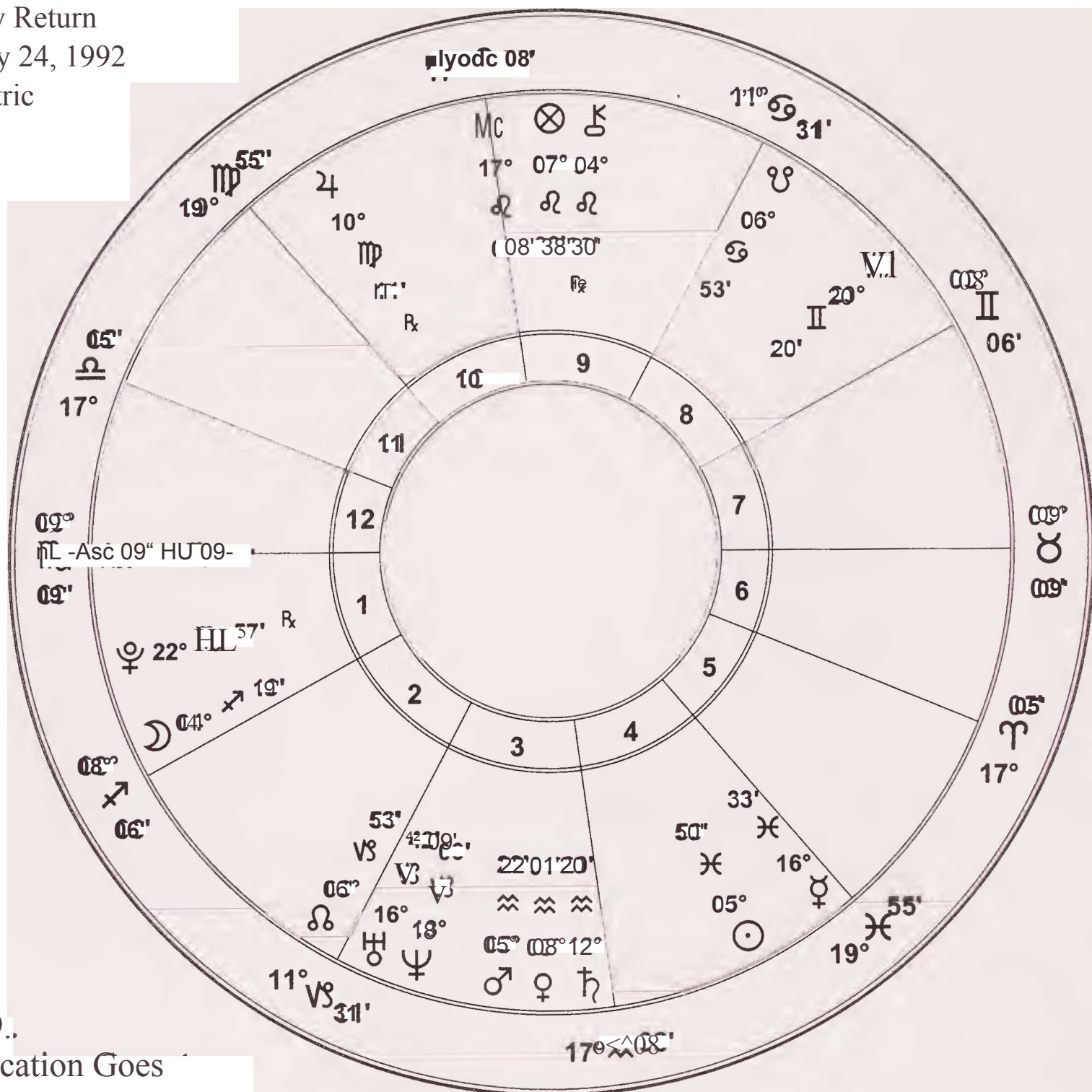
The woman to whom the chart belongs had always lived near her family in a small town. Due to a lack of career options, she decided, somewhat impulsively, to move to a larger city several hundred miles away. A friend already living there was quite accommodating, and utilizing some connections, arranged for a job and an apartment for her friend's arrival. These events began to transpire during the second trimester of the return period, as suggested by Mercury's placement near the cusp of a succedent house.

Whether it was simply misfortune or fate that timed her move will forever remain a mystery, but she set out on the road with only her personal belongings at the precise time Mercury made a retrograde station on the return Midheaven. At its station, it was near a square to Pluto and a sextile to the Vertex, the latter an indicator of somewhat fateful experiences and encounters.

Upon her arrival, all seemed well except for a climate she was unaccustomed to. Within a couple of days however, problems began. Her new coworkers were

The Mercury Return

resentful and possibly felt threatened by her Retrograde Mercury was opposing the Mercury Return
 February 24, 1992
 Geocentric



ambition and work skills and took covert measures to make her job difficult. The boss showed favoritism toward the older employees and, overall, she felt quite unwelcome. All of this came on top of the usual homesickness. The fact that she missed her family, and even a not-so-serious boyfriend, was more than she could bear. Sadly overwhelmed, she made the decision to return to her native home.

return Saturn when she gave notice to leave her new job and she set out on her return trip home the day it opposed Venus. She had been gone only three weeks upon her return. The retrograde Mercury aspects as well as

the initial Mercury-Uranus tie are all quite operative as well as descriptive of the circumstances and events that took place.

Who knows what might have occurred had she made her move before or after the retrograde cycle? With nearly all of the planets in the personal area of the chart, her place was probably at home, and Uranus allowed her to find this out for herself. Saturn near the cusp of the fourth house fairly acts as an anchor to keep her at home and Mercury on the cusp of the fifth shows her mindset on both her daughter and her boyfriend. Her natal Saturn also fell on the Ascendant of the Mercury Return to further emphasize a restriction on travel.

Occupational and Vehicle Changes

The next Mercury Return is exceptionally symbolic of many Mercury-ruled affairs and provides the opportunity to illustrate several points of special interest as we trace Mercury's transit through the chart (chart 10). The intensity and unusual amount of activity that took place is a result of Mercury's close conjunction with the Sun, an aspect repeated from the natal chart. A conjunction within 8 degrees of these two gives Mercury a description of combust, meaning "burnt up," and is believed to weaken it to some degree. Leo is rising, over which the Sun rules, and also duplicates the natal chart. The nodal conjunction with Mars in the second house is also a signature of dynamic events.

Note that the return shows Mercury in a

succedent house, indicating an emphasis on activity during the second trimester of the return period. The overall chart agrees and also shows a continuation of activity for the last trimester. The first major incident to report occurred almost to the day that Mercury reached the beginning point of the second trimester at 11 degrees Leo and approached the Ascendant.

Due to extenuating circumstances, it was on this day that the young man to whom the chart belongs finally threw in the towel and quit an undesirable job without giving notice. The closest aspect is an opposition to return Jupiter, in the sixth house. This aspect indicates that while he felt urged to capitalize upon his knowledge, he felt it was being underutilized in his current job. The same aspect also signifies stressful communications with someone who could have been of a beneficial influence.

Now, there was no aspect of Mercury to Jupiter at the onset of the return, nor to Uranus, the other planet currently in opposition. Uranus, of course, shows the unexpected turn of events, but without a stressful return aspect to Mercury, neither of these current aspects should prove particularly disastrous, since there was also no aspect between them in the natal chart. The current position of transiting

The Mercury Return

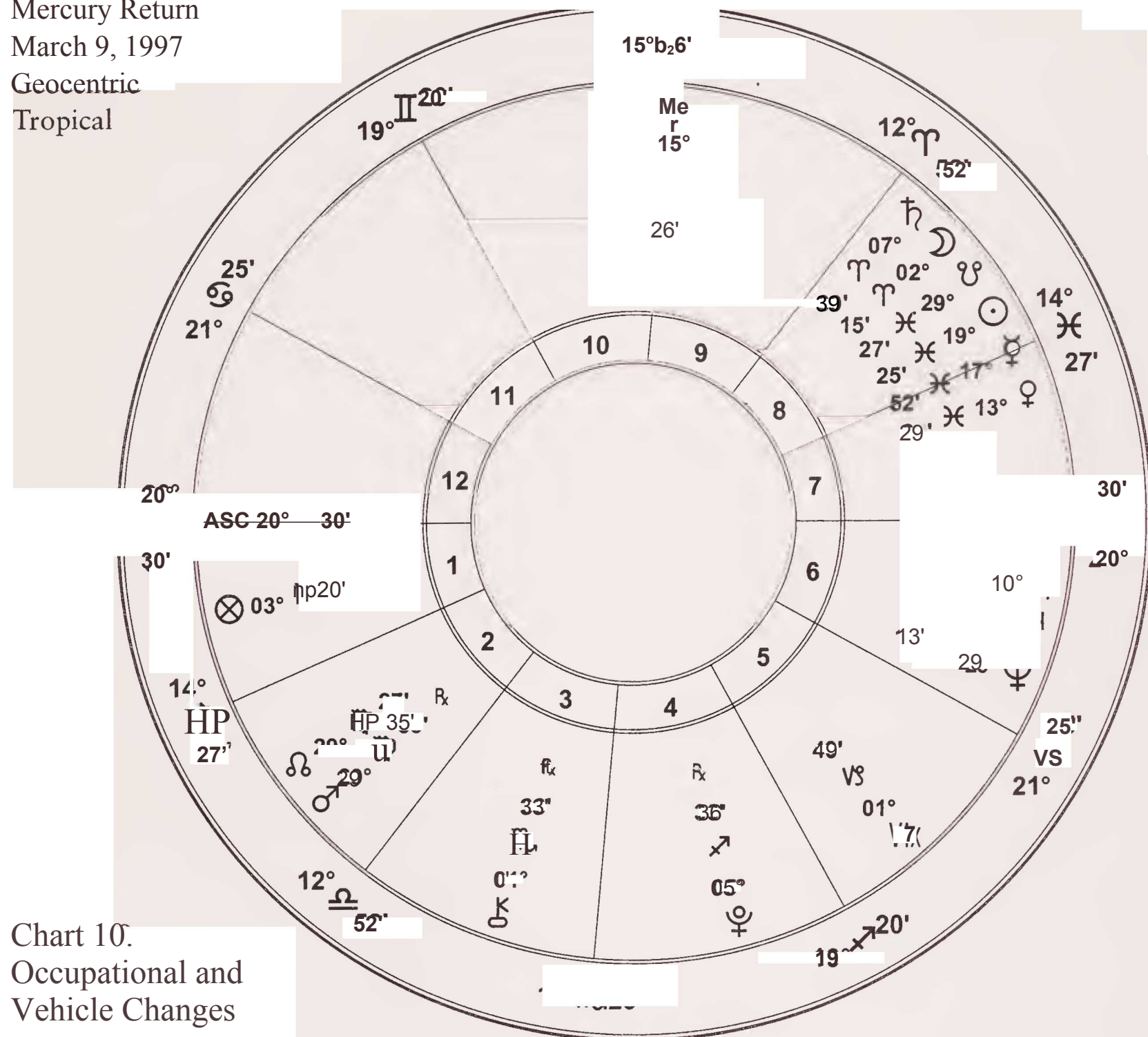
Mercury, near the Ascendant, also fills the operative, however, as he was under a great

Mercury Return

March 9, 1997

Geocentric

Tropical



vacancy to form a Grand Trine involving amount of stress while interviewing for the Saturn and Pluto. The aspect to Saturn new job. The new job also required suggests the ability to communicate clearly extended commutes, reflected in the same and on serious subject matter with aspect.

authorities and Pluto indicates the death The next event of note occurred when and rebirth of a situation. So, on the very Mercury reached 15 Virgo, precisely on the same day, the young man acquired a new second house cusp, opposing Venus, job, with better pay and benefits than Mercury, and then the Sun. Two traffic before, and had turned that Mercury-Jupiter aspect to his advantage. It was still

tickets within forty-eight hours brought some rather serious ramifications to his financial state, as well as complications to his new job.

When Mercury reached 0 Libra, relating to the Aries Point degree, it was still in close conjunction with Mars and the North Node, and was forming stressful contacts to both the Vertex and the Moon. The Mercury potential is greatly stimulated by both Mars and the North Node. He was hit in his car not once, but on two separate occasions on the same day. Both were fairly minor incidents with minimal damage, and the other drivers were at fault both times, but uninsured. The dynamic events that were suggested by the Mars-Node conjunction in the second house came to pass with damage to personal property. The nodes tend to act as timers and exclamation points to planets they appear in conjunction with. In this case, the “marring” tendency of Mars was allowed a perfect outlet. The Vertex is also symbolic of fated encounters, and the involvement with the eighth-house Moon reflects the fluctuating insurance situation.

The passage of Mercury across the fourth house cusp found our young man moving a short distance into a new apartment with the attendant new hookups of phone, cable, electricity, etc., but things proceeded smoothly and the move resulted in several new benefits. The transiting aspects of Mercury at the time were trines to the return Venus, Mercury, and the Sun.

We go next to Mercury’s contact with Pluto, where several beneficial aspects are formed at the same time to planets in the sixth and eighth houses, indicating job activity and the support of others, especially as it calls for financial funding. Two events, one minor and one major, were reflected in these contacts. An older acquaintance came up with a pair of exclusive tickets to a basketball game and our friend was invited along to see his favorite team play. On the same day, his new boss, quite impressed with his capabilities offered him a partnership in the company, and presented an agreement for the new partnership! The transiting Mercury aspects at the time were sextiles and trines to return Uranus, Jupiter, Saturn, and the Moon.

Now things may begin to get a little difficult since we’ve seen what happens when the threesome in Pisces is stimulated by stressful aspects, and, unfortunately, Mercury will turn retrograde and come back to make a final station at exactly 17 Sagittarius, the most sensitive point. The first time Mercury crossed, in direct motion, only a minor incident occurred and he was simply stood up by an acquaintance for some plans they had made. At its retrograde crossing, his car broke down and remained that way for well over a week while parts were

ordered, etc. He wasn't out of the woods yet, because Mercury also crossed the Aries Point degree in Capricorn, not once or twice, but three times due to its retrograde cycle. Here, it forms a conjunction to the Vertex, and squares both the Moon and Mars. The first time it crossed, he put a bike in layaway for his wife for Christmas and, at its second crossing, her new bike was stolen from outside their apartment. The third time across, his car disappeared and, as it turns out, it had been repossessed because a late payment was not properly logged. He had only had it back from the shop for five days. Would things now take a turn for the better? Soon, but not quite yet.

Feeling that the repossession might be a blessing in disguise, because he had been burdened by the enormous monthly payments and insurance, he also took steps to file for bankruptcy during this latest and most complicated transit of Mercury. These major events are, of course, in keeping with the indicators of the return chart itself. Mercury's position in the eighth house suggested many of the events that actually took place up to and including the repossession of the car and the paperwork required for filing bankruptcy.

He then arranged to get himself something to drive at a car auction. What he found turned out to be the lemon of lemons as Mercury formed an exact square to the third and ninth house cusps and a wide square to Saturn.

Now, don't worry, because there is a happy ending to this story. Because the auction people did not want to give him back his money for the car that wouldn't even run, thanks to a cracked block, he was forced to wait things out, which turned out to be the real blessing. The next time he was able to go shopping for a car, Mercury was in perfect sextile to Saturn and back in

one of its more fortunate positions at 7 Aquarius. He got a great deal on a good car, with a payment he could afford.

For the icing on the cake, his best friend, who lived several hundred miles away for more than two years, relocated to the same city, arriving on the day Mercury transited in conjunction with Venus just before the end of the return period. It had been a year since they had seen one another, when his friend had been in town for a visit at the onset of the return. What occurred on that very first passage of Mercury across the true Aries Point degree, just after the onset of the return? He saw a major traffic accident right in front of him, pulled over, and ran to the rescue of a victim stuck in the wreckage.

The Mercury Return Series

The Mercury Return period can be broken down into smaller time increments with a series of charts that are used with the Mercury Return as the foundation. Although many will not find this necessary, for those who have a particular need

to know about a Mercury-ruled event, the accompanying series is quite helpful. Each of the charts in the series covers only about a three-week time period, except during the retrograde cycle of Mercury. To calculate the series, use a point return of Mercury to its natal degree into each of the signs. If return Mercury is at 4 Gemini 25, the series would be the charts that result from Mercury's entry to this exact placement in each of the remaining signs. About three weeks after the main return period begins, Mercury would reach 4 Cancer 25, and then 4 Leo 25, and so on. The configurations resulting from the precise time this personal degree is activated by Mercury is symbolic of the immediate future.

These charts can be checked to see which house of the Mercury Return is rising. This shows areas that are accentuated for the next few weeks. Between this and the characteristics of the rising sign, a fairly good idea of what is coming can be established. Aspects made by Mercury to planets in this chart as well as to natal planets are highly indicative of the ensuing three weeks. Important connections between planets in the new chart to those in the Mercury Return provide further details.

Within this series, there will usually be one or more charts that closely match the Mercury Return itself, by rising sign and house positions. It can be identified as most important for the entire period, and one may anticipate the unfolding of significant events that were promised in the return. Other special factors to look for would be the position of a planet in the Aries Point degree or in one of the degrees related to the Aries Point degree. Dynamic events relating to this planet will take place. The house it rules and all of the aspects it makes in the new chart, to planets in the

return chart, and to the natal chart should be examined.

Note that if one is using the precessed method for calculating the Mercury Return, the remaining series of charts should also have this precession factor accounted for, with attention to the precessed degree of Mercury. A discussion on precession is found in chapter 3.

Since Mercury moves very quickly, except at its retrograde period, the contacts it makes are very brief, exact for only a day usually. Therefore, the events found to correspond with the indicators in the Mercury Return aren't of the same magnitude as the major life-turning points noted in the outer planetary returns. They are quite significant at the time they are happening, however, and can be used to corroborate findings in the other returns, as well as to find the timing of Mercurian events. For everyone, they certainly have their memorable moments.

Chapter Seven

THE VENUS RETURN

Symbolism of Venus

Calculated for the exact return of Venus to its natal position, the Venus Return reflects primarily upon social contacts and activities, and upon events surrounding the people and object(s) of one's affection. If significant events of a Venusian nature are coming due, such as marriage, it will be shown in this return. Other special celebrations will also be revealed, as well as whether one may anticipate gifts or an increase in material goods. The house position and aspects of return Venus describes the general nature of these matters for the return period, which is roughly one year, give or take a month or so. This chart is interpreted much as any other, but bear in mind that it maps events centering on the love nature, personal popularity, and forthcoming benefits, both social and material. Like any return chart, the Venus Return represents the beginning of a new cycle, which in this case centers on love and happiness.

If Venus holds special prominence in the natal chart, such as ruling the Ascendant or Sun sign, the Venus

Return holds special meaning. An individual born strongly under the rays of any planet will always flow to the vibratory rate of that planet. That's why personal mannerisms and outlook can always be traced to the exact combination of factors involving the Ascendant and ego needs are reflected in the Sun sign and attending characteristics.

In a man's chart, Venus' activity often mirrors events centering on the woman in his life. Responsive to his needs and a source of comfort, she often fills the role of social companion as well. If this flow is interrupted or enhanced, as indicated by Venus' aspects in the return chart or by the subsequent transit of Venus, it frequently reflects conditions surrounding her. For both men and women, Venus contacts may reflect upon conditions surrounding a daughter.

The very day of the Venus Return will usually correspond with the surfacing of an issue or event that stimulates the affectionate or emotional nature. A loved one may be brought into focus or there is cause to reflect upon the measure of harmony in a situation. Whatever the issue, it is likely to be significantly connected to several events during the return period. Seeming rather insignificant at the onset, an issue arising here will sometimes surface for special handling at several intervals during the following year.

Interpreting the Venus Return

In reading the return chart itself, there are only two things that make it different from other chart readings. First, it is temporary, and second, all factors are directly related to Venus' affairs. If the Venus Return closely matches the natal chart, by rising sign and degree, it will be an especially significant year for Venus-ruled affairs. This is a vital factor to take notice of. The particular events that transpire during this return may be quite spectacular as they affect happiness, love, or financial security. The more important Venus is in the natal chart, the more important this phenomenon.

The rising sign is revealing, along with the natal house that is brought to the first-house cusp position. Use of some leading key words for the sign and house will begin the interpretation. The house occupied by Venus in the return illustrates the area where Venus' energy can be observed. Attraction centers here and there is an issue involving happiness and/or the need for balance and harmony. In return charts the house polarity factor should also be considered. In other words, while the house occupied by Venus is most revealing, the people and affairs governed under the opposite house will also be relevant.

To add substance to a simple interpretation of the sign and house occupied by

Venus, a few other guidelines are valuable. Pivotal relationships and deeply personal affairs correspond with the cardinal signs and the angular houses. There is generally a lot of activity taking place and things are happening. The fixed signs and succedent houses can be depended on to represent issues involving resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions and finalities. The mutable signs and cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. Issues evolving with these signs or positions highlighted remain in the background until a later stage in their development, often corresponding with the onset of the next return. Of special note with the Venus Return is the frequency with which a new return coincides with the finalization of a divorce for someone who has experienced the breakup of a marriage. The previous return often adheres to the latter description involving cadent houses, and the new return frequently brings Venus to a more prominent position and/or better aspects than the last, indicating new scope and a restoration of harmony and balance.

To further define the houses, consider the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses. They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

If the return chart shows Venus on an angle, tightly configured, or in conjunction with several other planets, it will be quite an eventful year for Venus-ruled affairs and

the return period is likely to start out with a burst of activity. If Venus is in an angular house, the first one-third of the return period will be emphasized in regard to events associated with Venus. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle portion of the return period that shows an increase in these activities, and the latter portion of the period will be accentuated if Venus falls in a cadent house. While the house position of Venus alone is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for any heavy

concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

The planet(s) forming the closest conjunction(s) with any of the four angles of the return should be given precedence in reading the chart. The symbolism of these planets will be significant factors in the Venus affairs to transpire over the course of the period. Of the angles, the first and tenth house cusps are more prominent positions than the fourth and seventh, unless there are additional factors to consider. The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so events linked to the nature of the planet are given a superb outlet. These angular planets and the aspects they form reveal major themes for the period. For example, the benefic Venus on an angle can do little to benefit if it forms many stressful aspects. Instead, it suggests an interruption to existing harmony and may tell of heartbreaking circumstances.

As with any return, the natal planets should be inserted on the wheel to find any important ties to return planets or house cusps. They will add to the interpretation of the return. Natal planets arriving on an angle of the return are also provided an ideal environment to manifest their potential.

The year in which the Venus Return shows Venus resuming contact with several planets with which it was natively configured is of considerable importance and a number of memorable events will occur. Conditions and circumstances that

arise during this return period bring the opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always bear in mind the natal relationship of Venus to another planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect in the return. If, for example, it is in square in the return chart to a planet that it was natively square, the potential for disappointing circumstances is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of a natal trine, but whatever circumstances arise can be worked out more easily to one's happiness or benefit. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the actual workings of a later connection between two planets.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Venus Return itself. Planets that Venus is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are the most likely to produce stress when Venus forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two natively, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that transiting Venus makes as it circles the return will show Venus activity relating to that planet, but contact to a planet in which it

was in return aspect will usually prove to hold greater significance.

Judging Points of Energy and Timing Activity

As transiting Venus circles the return chart, its contacts to the planets point to activity that will surface involving the heart's desires. The return planet aspected by Venus will have a bearing on the actual workings of these affairs, and the particular influence can be timed very accurately to the day the contact is exact. In regard to these matters, there will often be two or more related events, the first occurring at the conjunction to a planet and subsequent activity at the sextile, square, trine, and/or opposition. Alternatively, what begins at the conjunction may be finalized or taken a step further at the square and so on. The hard contacts usually produce more activity than the softer sextile or trine. Sometimes these recurrences coincide with contacts formed due to Venus's retrograde cycle, as well. In this case, it may be the first conjunction of Venus to a planet that starts the cycle, with the result brought to bear at its last conjunction to the same planet.

Contacts to the angles tell of major peaks in activity for the year. Watch as activity begins to accelerate as Venus approaches the angles, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away. It is like coming to a busy intersection. These peaks will generally include all of the functions of Venus, so that there is not only more

socializing, but also more things taking place that relate to the financial side of Venus. It is also wise to anticipate important activity at the time Venus contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction.

When Venus nears the Ascendant, one tends to become somewhat selfabsorbed. It is a time we prefer our own company and wish to spend time alone. It's a good time to work on physical image, update wardrobes, get a new hairstyle, and do some toning up. As Venus reaches the cusp of the tenth house, there is usually a peak in social affairs and this transit tends to coincide quite remarkably with the single most significant social event for the entire return period!

Venus also stimulates and brings about an unfolding of activity associated with significant configurations within the return chart. If the return chart holds several planets in nearly the same degree, although in different signs, it will be a sensitive degree. As Venus reaches this degree in any of the signs, it will stimulate several planets all at once, thus the dates of these transits will generally correspond with more spectacular events.

An unusually active time period is found when Venus contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for the energies of Venus, and

the planet reflects an already unique set of energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy that results is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle, sign, planet, aspects, and house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If Venus, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal its influence, although affairs may tend to remain low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune, a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act to stimulate Venus activity and usually work to bring about some event of special note.

Another point of emphasis is found when Venus enters the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since these positions of Venus are extremely sensitive. Called the *Aries Point degrees*, these include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of magnitude and far-reaching circumstances. There is worldly involvement in one's personal affairs and those outside the normal circle possess weighty influence. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or

opposition from transiting Venus to another planet or point in the return, which lies in an Aries Point degree. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time and/or affairs have worldly connotations. In the Venus Return, circumstances involving a loved one may require outside assistance or a professional expert may be consulted, for example. One thing is sure, though, whatever takes place will have a great impact on the happiness quotient, and the event will be instilled in one's memory. Tabulate the exact dates that transiting Venus makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points, since this provides an excellent opportunity to be in the right place at the right time.

Venus' Transiting Aspects

By tabulating Venus' transit through the signs and houses of the return chart, one is better able to make informed social and financial plans. Venus brings an emphasis to social activities associated with the house through which it is traveling since this is where the affections are leaning and where an attraction is found. The people associated with the house of Venus' transit are usually happy to grant favors and benefits in general come from them, especially when Venus also makes

harmonious contacts to planets in the return. The more remarkable Venus-ruled events occur as it contacts planets and house cusps of the return. Of these, the conjunction is most notable.

Judgment can also be made on where financial increases may be anticipated. If, for example, the aspects are good, request a credit line increase as Venus transits the second or eighth house of the return chart. Chances are good of getting it. On the other hand, when transiting Venus forms harsh aspects to other planets within the return chart, the people and things associated with its house position are a potential source of disappointment. Accounting for the sign occupancy of Venus' transit is also revealing. A Venus contact to return Mercury while transiting Aries provides more scope for a verbal conflict with a loved one than if the same contact occurs in Libra, for example. Traditional house and planetary blending is used to assess any of the aspects.

A Venus contact to Mercury or its sixth-house transit might coincide with a job-related social function. In aspect to Mercury or a third-house transit might time events involving a sibling or a youth of one's affections.

Venus' contact with the Moon or a fourth-house position of Venus suggests entertaining at home or family social events and indicates connections with women.

Venus to Venus contacts accentuate feminine interests, including such things as

bridal or baby showers, in home parties, or an event centering around a daughter.

Venus contacts to Mars stir the passionate nature and lean toward events involving a masculine figure. These could show a son's marriage or social interactions with those of a masculine influence. These aspects imply much about how our general relationships are going, with the easy aspects showing harmonious times and the stressful aspects pointing to a time of potential turbulence.

Venus transiting Jupiter is among the most outstanding contacts. Since both planets are social in nature, they combine well and sometimes reveal a time of elite social affairs or making the acquaintance of a benefactor. If you're single, don't pass up any blind dates at this time, since you could meet a wealthy mate and/or your heart's desire! The worst of these contacts are likely to reflect upon a short but unfavorable social era, trapped in the company of the boring, or blowing one's budget on a whim.

Venus with the Sun is rather like a simultaneous blending with Mars and Jupiter. Quite a significant contact, it is generally a pleasant transit, bringing personal benefits. It tends toward favorable connections with masculine types and those of honorable character. Additionally, it sometimes reflects the time when a significant male-female bonding takes place.

Venus with Saturn occasionally denotes a serious and long-lasting; commitment, but more often implies a temporary damper on the social life. It is not usually the best time to plan social activities. Serious matters may prevent the heart from truly appreciating festive occasions. Concern for a loved one who is absent or experiencing difficulties could be a distraction. Sober associations are also indicated at this contact.

When Venus contacts Uranus, there may be an unexpected source of profit, schmoozing on the net, or a spontaneous get-together. It sometimes indicates a sudden or temporary attraction.

Venus with Neptune tends a bit toward travel, but as the ruler of the twelfth house, it inclines to withdrawal from social contacts, sometimes due to being a little under the weather.

The Venus contacts to Pluto may time an association with profound undertones or a weighty issue surrounding a loved one, but most commonly reflects close encounters of a financial kind.

Note that, as in reading a natal chart or any return chart, a subsequent link of two planets that were linked by aspect in the original chart hold greater priority. The original aspect may be expected to lead, and these contacts reveal times of potentially important events as indicated by the blending of the planetary natures.

Retrograde Venus

Since Venus goes retrograde about every

eighteen months, it will occasionally make a station on an angle and/or planet in the Venus Return. These retrograde cycles always indicate the need and opportunity for review. Sometimes this review is of an actual relationship and whether or not one's personal needs are being met in the relationship. At other times, the review may be of a financial and material sort, since this is also a natural domain of Venus. The affairs of the house of Venus's retrograde transit will be significant as well as any planet that it makes a station on, either by direct or retrograde motion. Activity in connection with the particular issue at hand may appear to slow down, or come to a Complete halt during the time Venus is retrograde. The review process that occurs here and the outcome of the issue may be among the more memorable events for the year. If Venus contacts a planet during direct motion, it will often correspond with the start of a process, which will be wrapped up at the final contact of Venus, sometimes several weeks later.

While retrograde Venus provides a wonderful opportunity to review and gain clarity on relationships and whether or not they are satisfying the emotional needs, it is not a wise time to enter into new commitments such as

marriage. Engagement is quite appropriate, however, since that is a sort of review process in itself. Minimally, the aspects formed by Venus during the remainder of the retrograde period should be considered before carrying out crucial Venus-ruled activities. Doing so can prevent heartache later on.

If Venus becomes retrograde shortly after the return period, there may be two or three Venus Returns within a short interval, and this phenomenon represents circumstances of special note. If there are three returns, this individual is already heavily involved and caught up quite intensely in a Venus-governed issue. This is also likely if there are two returns. In either case, the phenomenon verifies an immediate accent on Venus-related matters. It is interesting to see the shifts of energy from one of these return charts to the next, as a reflection of the maturing of life experiences in regard to the matter. The most recent return always shows activity leading to the next.

The Venus Return at Work

In the case history illustrating the Venus Return, three consecutive returns for the same woman follow (charts 11, 12, and 13). This will enable the student to get a good grasp of the cyclic significance of the returns. Rather than giving a detailed account of every event for each of the charts, only the most significant chart factors and events are presented.

A Separation

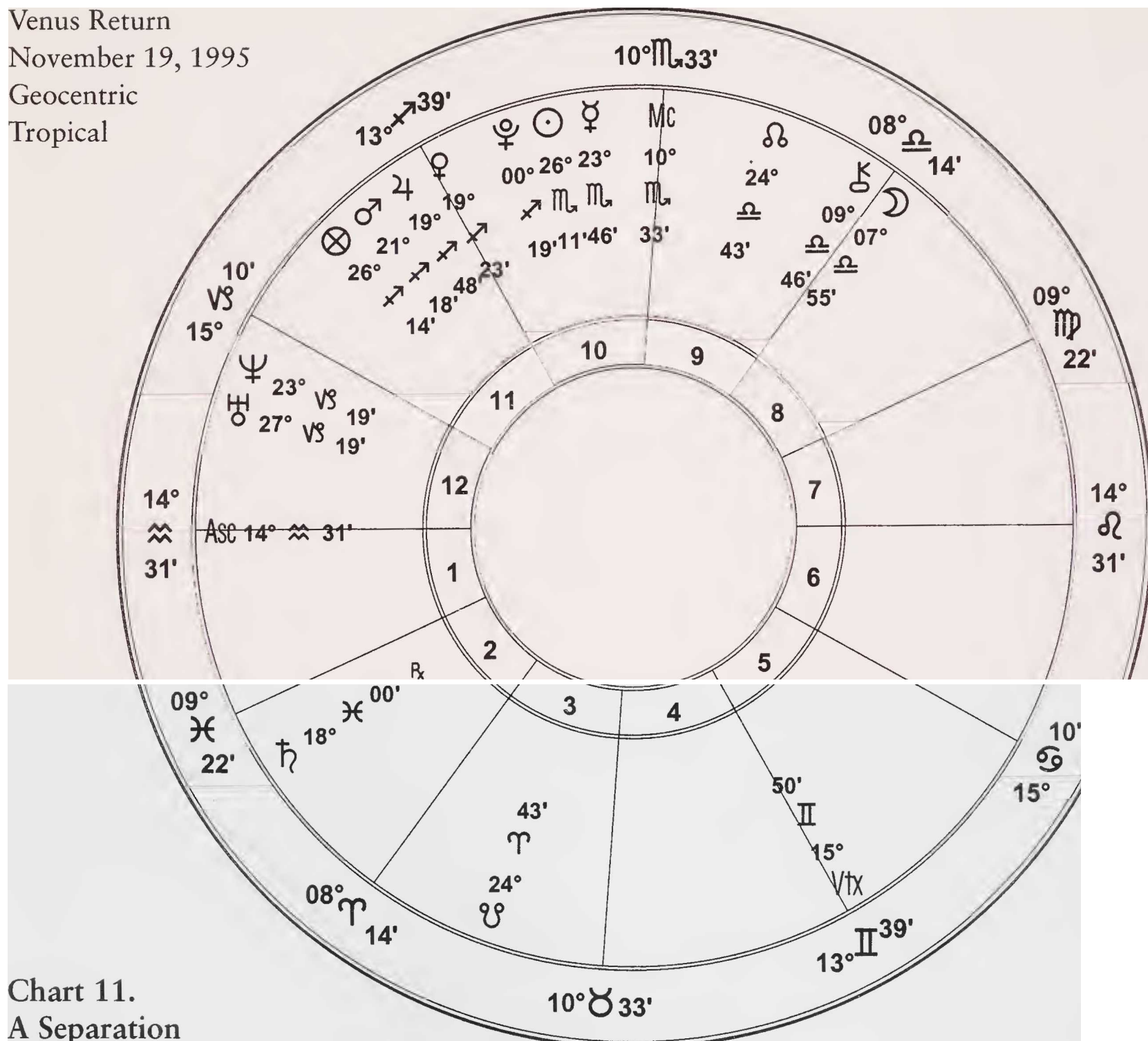
Valerie had been married to her first love for nearly two decades, but shortly after the onset of this Venus Return she became

increasingly aware that something was seriously disturbing her husband. In this chart, we see that Aquarius is rising, which is found to rule her natal twelfth house. This tells us several things. As chart ruler, Uranus suggests an unexpected turn to existing circumstances in relation to Venus-ruled affairs. The twelfth house implies something taking place behind the scenes and suggests that she might be facing some psychological fears or inadequacies. The current Venus Return also places Valerie's natal Pluto just inside the seventh house of the return chart, suggesting transformations within an intimate relationship or an otherwise intense encounter.

A pattern that catches the eye in particular is the conjunction of Venus, Jupiter, and Mars, since Venus is the planet of greatest concern. Venus and Mars together in conjunction can always be counted on to indicate issues involving a couple, a pairing-up, or a relationship of some degree of intimacy. Jupiter, as part of the configuration, suggests a legal ceremony of some kind in connection with the couple. Occurring in the sign of Sagittarius, there is emphasis to the theme. A keyword for Sagittarius, "wandering," might come to mind when noting that in addition to the earlier

The Venus Return

themes, this threesome falls in the house the Midheaven, a prominent point to



corresponding to her husband's fifth house (fifth house from the seventh), or the eleventh house of the chart. The three are also in a close square to Saturn, ruler of the twelfth house. Such an aspect between Venus and Saturn are often in evidence at times of heartbreak or loss.

Corroboration to the unfolding theme is found in the Sun position. Ruler of the seventh house, or her husband, it falls on

indicate that his interests are focal in the maturation of events. It is in conjunction with both Mercury and Pluto. Both the signs and the planets verify transformations and movement and when reading the chart from the husband's point of view, these fall in his fourth house of home and family.

Venus rules the fourth and ninth houses of the chart so the Venus-ruled events taking place will ultimately prove to have a great impact on those areas of Valerie's life. A full assessment of the chart, including the insertion of the natal planets, would reveal further evidence of the events that took place.

As transiting Venus passed over the Ascendant and opposed natal Pluto in the seventh house, while also approaching a square to the return planets signifying her husband, he sadly informed Valerie that he didn't want to be married any longer. Perhaps more crushing than that was an event that followed soon after. As Venus squared return Pluto Valerie found out that there was indeed another woman and had been for some time. On the day that Venus transited in conjunction with Saturn and squared Venus, Jupiter, and Mars, he moved in with the other woman, bringing certain finality to the long marriage and to the situation.

Of course, their two children were crushed as well, and each handled the loss differently. Her son refused to have anything more to do with his father, while her daughter tried to find a way to excuse him. The upset to their home and family carried into the next return period.

A Loved One in Turmoil

It is no coincidence, when you understand how these cycles work, that the very day of the next Venus Return fell on the one-year

anniversary date of her husband's confession that he wanted a divorce—a date that was etched in Valerie's memory. As the one-year mark, it is also a time for coming to terms. Since one is unable to go backward, the anniversary reminds us that it is time to move forward, thus the return also signals that a new cycle has been set in motion.

In this return, Venus makes no planetary aspects, but the exact square to the fourth- and tenth-house axis is notable. It is found in the twelfth house, a Venus position that often coincides with the needed health care of a loved one and the related rehabilitation processes. The position also implies that some of the earlier twelfth-house themes are carried over into this return of facing psychological issues. Capricorn is rising and several planets are found in this sign, bringing an emphasis to the characteristics of the sign, such as a slow but steady climb and the need for patience. Valerie's eleventh house is rising, so she will obviously find support and benefits through her friendships and group associations. Because the house polarity factor is one of greater importance when reading a return chart, this factor comes into play at this point. Noting that the eleventh house of the return chart holds no planets and is ruled by an unlinked Venus, we look to the opposite fifth house for clues about the

The Venus Return

upcoming time period. Here we find that fifth house are going to be quite dynamic

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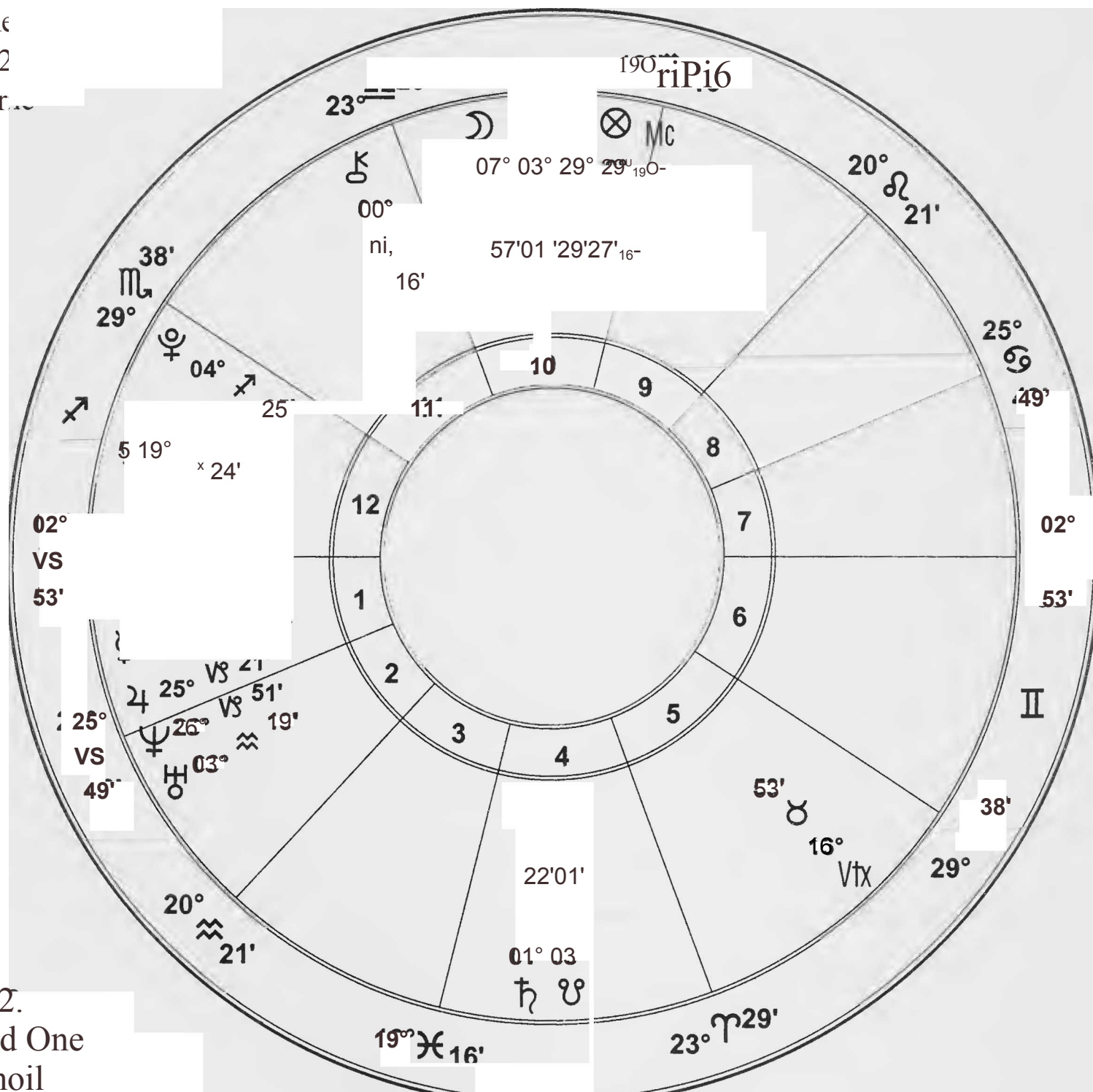


Chart 12.
A Loved One
in Turmoil

Mars is ruler and involved in several aspects, including an opposition to Saturn and a wide conjunction with the Moon.

Understanding the current situation and the problems with adjustment that Valerie's children are having due to their father's abandonment, this fifth-house activity reflects the conditions at hand.

Even if these details were not known, however, we would know that issues of the

during the upcoming period based only on the fact that Mars is ruler and prominently aspected in the tenth house. Anytime Mars is involved there is potential for conflicts and upsets, especially with these particular aspects. So,

following the lead that the chart has given, we begin to break down these indicators. First of all, since this is a Venus return, we know that loved ones are the focus of the chart. The fifth house rules both children and lovers. If we weren't familiar with which of these fit most accurately into Valerie's present circumstances, we would continue to look at the evidence shown in the chart.

Mars is the most elevated planet in the chart, emphasizing the importance of all fifth-house matters. It is in the sign of Virgo, a health and wellness sign. Mars also makes its wide conjunction to the Moon, and from this configuration we can tell several things. First, it is an aspect that is often found when there is an accident or illness at hand and this ties in neatly with the indicators of the twelfth-house Venus and the Virgo Mars. Second, the Moon signifies a female and since it is involved with the fifth-house ruler, we might surmise that her daughter is coming under some stress.

These indications become quite a focal point of the chart with the North Node conjunction pulling in the orbs of the Moon and Mars. The North Node accentuates to an outstanding degree whatever configuration it is found to be influencing and, in this chart, Mars is in opposition to the return Saturn while in conjunction with Valerie's natal Saturn. The North Node with Mars is an exceptionally dynamic combination. Indications are increasingly alarming since these aspects suggest potential threats to her daughter's health.

Mars is of a physical nature and known for its involvement in "marring" incidents, which is where its name comes from. It is often in focus when there are cuts, injuries, or accidents. Besides these threatening aspects made by Mars, it receives an assisting "go-ahead" from Jupiter, Uranus, Neptune, and Pluto, none of which have particularly steadying qualities and, in addition, Pluto can be rash.

The return chart also shows a square between the Sun and Moon, suggesting an imbalance of the yin-yang energies and often symbolic of a male/female or husband-wife relationship. Here it obviously reflects the current divorce proceedings and ramifications. Saturn and the Moon appropriately rule the first and seventh houses. We might also ascertain a possible conflict between mother and daughter. This may reflect her daughter's inability to accept losing her father and possibly blaming her mother for her gradual acceptance of the new circumstances.

Using only the North Node indications, we know that some spectacular events of dynamic magnitude are close at hand and should occur either when the transiting North Node reaches the return Mars position or when the transiting

South Node reaches the natal North Node position at 24 Pisces.

As it came to pass, each of these nodal links were accurate timers at the two intervals when major events symbolized in the Venus Return took place. As Venus crossed the fourth house cusp, a point of energy manifestation, it also squared natal and return Venus. It was at this time that Valerie's daughter slashed her wrists and nearly ended her life! At the time, Mars had retrograded back to nearly the same position it held in the return and the transiting North Node, traveling alongside Mars, landed exactly conjunct the degree of return Mars.

Roughly two months later as Venus transited the return sixth house and opposed Venus in the twelfth house, Valerie's daughter again slashed her wrists and the situation was even more life threatening than the first time. The transiting South Node was within a degree of conjunction with the natal North Node. Take note also that the degree of the Pleiades fell exactly on the sixth house cusp in the Venus Return, indicating a health issue of some severity. The Pleiades degree is often symbolic of tragic events and frequently in connection with accidents. It is covered more thoroughly in my previous work, *Predicting Events with Astrology*. Knowing this, it could have been anticipated that a problematic time might be at hand as

Venus approached the sixth house of the return chart. It is only when the Pleiades is

exactly conjunct a house cusp or planet that it should be regarded as a warning signal. (See the entry for the *Pleiades* in the Glossary.)

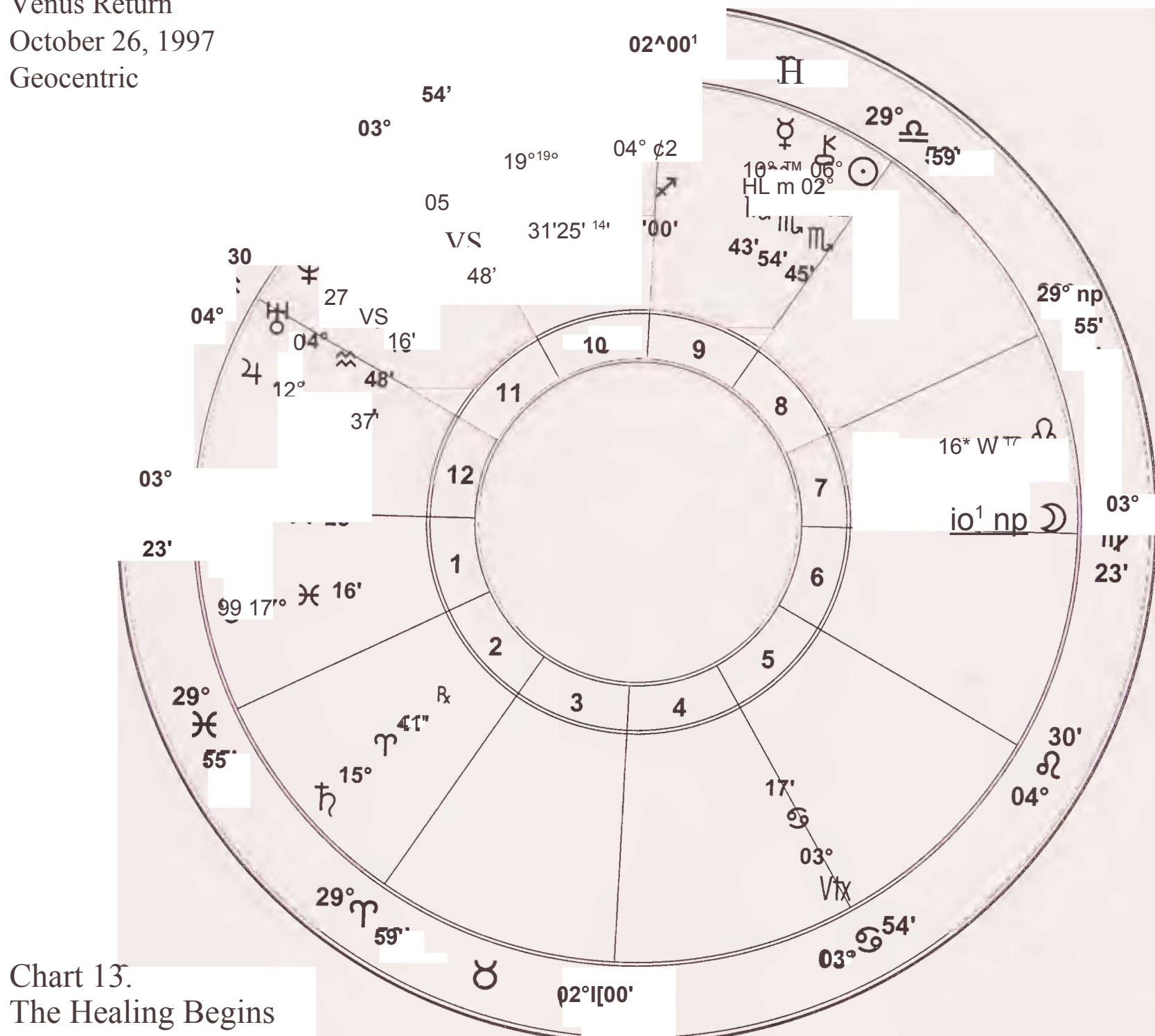
These circumstances surrounding her daughter are obviously a subject of the Venus Return since she is a focus of her mother's affection. Venus also rules young women and their concerns.

The Healing Begins

On the day the next Venus Return took place, it was again a memorable date. This time the date of the return fell on the first anniversary of Valerie's final divorce decree. The aspects made by Venus in this return show more favorable conditions than the previous two. With Venus' conjunction to Mars, the return still emphasizes relational activity and indicates some promising potential. On the very date of the return, Valerie met an eligible bachelor at a social function, but was not ready for anything serious as her main concerns were still for her daughter. Venus also forms a trine to Saturn and, combined with the tenth-house Pluto, accurately reflected additional harmony and free time for Valerie through a fortunate status change and some better job conditions that transpired shortly into the return period. Although the Moon-Pluto square indicates some

The Venus Return

bumps in the road, indicators are overall Venus-ruled event, the accompanying Venus Return
 October 26, 1997
 Geocentric



favorable that the family will slowly heal and a healthier atmosphere will prevail.

The Venus Return Series

The Venus Return period can be broken down into smaller time increments using a series of charts that are used with the Venus Return as the foundation. Although many will not find this necessary, for those who have a particular need to know about a

series is quite helpful. Each of the charts in the series covers a period of a little under a month, except during the retrograde cycle of Venus. To calculate the series, use a point return of Venus to its natal degree into each of the

signs. If return Venus is at 4 Gemini 25, the series would be the charts that result from Venus's entry to this exact degree in each of the remaining signs. About a month after the Venus Return, Venus would reach 4 Cancer 25, and then 4 Leo 25 a month after that, and so on. The configurations resulting from the precise time this personal degree is activated by Venus symbolizes the trend for the immediate future.

These charts can be checked to see which house of the Venus Return is rising. This shows areas that are accentuated for the next few weeks. Between this and the characteristics of the rising sign, a fairly good idea of what is coming can be established. Aspects formed by Venus to planets in this chart as well as to natal planets are highly indicative of the ensuing few weeks. Important connections between planets in the new chart to those in the Venus Return provide further details.

Within this series, there will usually be one or more charts that closely match the Venus Return itself, by rising sign and house positions. It can be identified as most important for the entire period, and one may anticipate the unfolding of significant events that were promised in the return. Other special factors to look for would be the position of a planet in the Aries Point degree or in one of the degrees related to the Aries Point degree. Dynamic events relating to this planet will take place. The house ruled by such a planet and all factors surrounding it should be examined.

Note that if one is using the precessed method for calculating the Venus Return, the remaining series of charts should also have this precession factor accounted for, with attention to the precessed degree of Venus. A discussion on precession is found in chapter 3.

Chapter Eight

THE MARS RETURN

Symbolism of Mars

The Mars Return is the beginning of a new cycle involving personal initiative and important new undertakings. Mars reflects upon actions taken to establish or to maintain one's individuality. Mars' return to its natal place occurs approximately every two years, and the time of the return will generally find one in the midst of assertive activity of one sort or another. A chart calculated for the return reveals the area that is subject to increased individualized efforts, the methods that will be applied to attaining new goals, and the assistance or barriers that will be met. The Mars Return is especially useful for determining the best times to take action in regard to new enterprise or activities that require physical strength and endurance.

Those with an Aries Sun sign or Ascendant and those who have Mars prominent in the natal chart will find the Mars Return to be an exceptional gauge for timing important activities. Already engaged in Mars-related activities, either personally or professionally, these individuals are in synchronicity with the cycle of Mars. Others will find this

return helpful for wise planning of Mars-ruled activities and to avoid the occasional pitfalls associated with Mars.

Similar to the way the Venus Return reflects events centering on a woman in a man's chart and on feminine affairs in general, Mars represents the masculine counterpart. For a woman, the affairs and events associated with Mars' contacts to the various points in the return frequently reflect upon activities of her husband and/or upon the masculine figures in her life. As the problem-solver, the caretaker, and the aggressive force behind the union, if this flow is interrupted or enhanced, as indicated by Mars' aspects in the return or by the subsequent transit of Mars, it may reflect upon conditions surrounding him. Unless involved in an agenda of her own that requires assertive qualities and action, this proclivity will be in greater evidence. For both men and women, Mars' connections in the return chart may be linked to a male child.

Of all the planets, Mars is generally viewed as the one most in need of direction and control. Many astrologers consider the degree it holds in a chart to be an afflicted degree. This is due to the reflexive dynamics involved. Mars has traditionally been considered a malefic planet since it is frequently active at the time of conflicts, accidents, and otherwise worrisome situations and circumstances.

Taking a closer look, Mars represents the instinctive urge to survive as an individual.

It reflects the physical life force striving to remain an entity. As the ruler of Aries, the sign of out-rushing energy, it signifies the aggressive urges and the point where one feels instinctively opposed. As the ruler of war, in an individual's chart Mars indicates the "front line" in life where one meets and overcomes opposition. Mars' energy is quite appropriate when facing danger because Mars' energy is experienced similar to that of adrenaline. One has either the urge to flee or to fight back when facing opposition. In fact, as pointed out by Rob Hand in *Horoscope Symbols*,¹ Mars' moons are named *Phobos* and *Deimos*, which are Latin for "fear" and "panic." An individual becomes stimulated, energized, or aggravated under the rays of Mars. When Mars is active, there is confidence in beliefs and actions, sometimes to an unrealistic degree, and a desire to start something. Mars rules those in the military, surgeons, those who work with sharp instruments, and men in general. As co-ruler of the husband in a woman's chart, it rules the sexual urges in us all.

A strong Mars assists in matters requiring courage, passion, and initiative. These Mars types enjoy a healthy amount of competition and the opportunity to demonstrate their courage. An

unencumbered or healthy Mars would be so by a good sign and house placement for its natural energy. Smooth-flowing aspects to other planets in the chart would ensure the easy integration of one's efforts with the rest of the world. Mars well combined with the Sun, Venus, or Jupiter brings harmony to the expression of Mars' energies. With any of these aspects an individual is able to exert initiative in a manner that is not threatening to others.

An afflicted Mars is usually revealed by an overcompensating manner, causing inappropriate aggressive actions that ultimately bring problems back upon the individual. Here, the energies of Mars require more direction and control in order for them to flow harmoniously. Since the natural instinct provided by Mars is to take action now and think about it later, problems arise as described by the countering planetary energies. Any of the outer planets in conflict with Mars reflects some degree of hampering or restriction to the natural flow of energy produced by Mars.

The "flight" option is often in evidence with a weak Mars. Problems are not confronted face-on and the easy road out is usually taken even to the individual's own detriment. If weak and afflicted, sly and covert tactics are taken against the "enemy." This method of dealing with problems boomerangs eventually and may do so in the form of health problems or becoming accident-prone. Another likely manifestation with a weak Mars is to

experience the aggressive energies associated with it in projected form. In projected form, the individual is a target for someone else's aggressive traits, and in extreme instances becomes the victim of such violence. However, the source of the problem still lies within the individual who is harboring negative thoughts and vibrations, thus becoming a magnet for unpleasant experiences. A twelfth-house Mars with several adverse aspects is an example of a weakened Mars and one that would need to be monitored closely as it transits the chart. The planetary aspects of Mars are examined in detail further on and are helpful in determining the natal potential of the planet, the return potential, and what to expect during transiting aspects.

Interpreting the Mars Return

The Mars Return chart is interpreted the same as any other, except it is temporary and reflects the current environmental and circumstantial conditions as they will affect the individualistic urges. The chart shows the efforts to be taken over the coming two years in setting one apart from others through personal action and contribution.

Using the same basic tools as for reading a natal chart, tight configurations and their meanings should be noted and the overall chart pattern studied. The ruler of the return Ascendant is of primary concern as well as the most elevated planet in the chart, whether east or west of the Midheaven. The most elevated planet is not necessarily more important than a planet close to an angle but if there is no great emphasis to another planet, it may be given precedence.

The rising sign should be carefully considered since events will tend to emphasize attributes of the sign. Use of some leading key words for the sign begins the interpretation. In judging the rising sign or any of the houses, the fixed signs bring qualities of stability or permanence, mutable signs show fluctuations or a preparatory stage, and cardinal signs indicate personal action. Blending the elements reveals an initiation of activity if a fire sign; practical concerns if an earth sign; intellectual interests if an air sign; and psychological issues if a water sign. Further consideration of the particular sign will bring even greater definition to the rising sign as well as to each of the individual houses and the affairs they govern. If Scorpio were rising, one would know that it is time for change. Such changes stem from psychological needs and are likely to be permanent and/or result in an increase or initial decrease in stability. As the traditional ruler of Scorpio, Mars' house position and aspects would be key to determining the changes ahead.

The signs on the angles will normally lead the chart unless there is a heavily occupied sign or house, in which case the sign characteristics and/or issues pertaining to the emphasized house usually reveal the trend for the month.

The natal house that is brought to the Ascendant position of the return is most important and should be a preliminary consideration. Since the Ascendant is an area of energy manifestation, conditions and environment will provide an ideal outlet for events and issues associated with this natal house to surface. The people, issues, and affairs of that house will be a major point of activity for the upcoming period.

If the Mars Return closely matches the natal chart, it will be an exceptional cycle for Mars-ruled affairs. Especially in this instance the prominence, condition, and potential of natal Mars should be studied.

If the return chart shows Mars on an angle or tightly configured with several other planets, it will be quite an eventful period for Mars-ruled affairs and the return period is likely to start out with a burst of activity symbolized by Mars. If Mars is in an angular house, the first one-third of the return period will be emphasized in regard to Mars' related events. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle

portion of the return period that shows an increase in these activities, and the latter portion of the period will be accentuated if Mars falls in a cadent house. While the house position of Mars alone is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for a heavy concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

The planet(s) forming the closest conjunction(s) with any of the four angles of the chart should be given precedence in reading the chart. Of these, the first and tenth house cusps are more efficient for producing activity than the fourth or seventh, unless there are additional factors to consider. The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so the natures of these planets are given a superb outlet and will be reflected in the Mars events to transpire. These angular planets reveal major themes for the period in regards to personal initiative.

Natal planets should also be inserted onto the wheel and combinations noted that are formed between the natal and return planets or house cusps. These combinations are revealing about the upcoming period, and angular natal planets are also afforded an ideal outlet for their natal potential to surface.

A Mars Return chart that shows Mars resuming contact with several planets with which it was in natal aspect is of considerable importance and a number of memorable events will occur. Conditions

and circumstances during this return period provide the opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized. These contacts reveal important events as shown by the original aspect and planetary natures.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always bear in mind the natal relationship of Mars to another planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect in the return. If, for example, it is in square in the return chart to a planet that it squared in the natal chart, the potential for upsetting circumstances is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of a natal trine, but whatever circumstances arise from it can be worked out more easily to one's satisfaction. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the actual workings of a later connection between two planets.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Mars Return itself. Planets that Mars is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are more likely to produce stress when Mars forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two natively, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that transiting Mars makes as it circles

the return will show Mars' activity relating to that planet, but contact to a planet in which it was in return aspect will usually prove to be of greater significance. If this also repeats a natal link, it is even more significant.

The house occupied by Mars further illustrates the area of focused Mars' energy. Pivotal circumstances and deeply personal affairs correspond with the angular house positions and cardinal signs. There is generally a lot of activity taking place and things are happening. The fixed signs and succedent houses can be depended on to represent issues involving material resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions and finalities. The mutable signs and cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. Issues could remain obscured in the background until a later stage in their development; sometimes corresponding with the onset of the next return.

To further define the houses, consider the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses. They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as

the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

In addition to the house ruled by Mars, consider also the planet that naturally rules over its house position. This provides further meaning to the way Mars will manifest for the next two years. The seventh house, with Venus as the natural ruler, suggests a focus on efforts to create partnerships and/or to establish harmony in relationships. Situations arising will call upon such efforts, the timing of which will correspond with the important contacts made by Mars as it transits the chart. In the eighth house, with Pluto the natural ruler, one focuses on regenerating the quantity or quality of support received from others, materially or emotionally. Again, situations arising may necessitate this focus. Events corresponding with transiting Mars' contacts will always reveal extreme personal involvement and exceptional partiality over the outcome

of an issue. One is willing to fight and go the extra mile in order to sway the universe. In fact, Mars' contacts often show the times when one is called into battle, so to speak. Efforts required are found by assessing the aspects to Mars in the return and by the aspects made for the time in question.

Whether because of the very physical manifestation of Mars or because the exact degree it holds in the natal chart remains a highly dynamic point, the nonprecessed Mars Return chart consistently gives better results for prediction than the precessed in my experience.

Judging Points of Energy and Timing Activity

The contacts made by Mars in transit to either the return or natal planets or points will find one at a peak of self-initiated dynamic activity. Breakthroughs and opportunities will arise at some of these contacts, and this is further emphasized when several planets are aspected at once. Plans can be coordinated ahead of time to take advantage of Mars' favorable contacts. The need to practice caution will be obvious at other times and refraining from attempts to push ahead will ultimately lead to quicker success. There might be several different aspects formed on the same day and assessing each of the individual aspects is crucial, since a few of Mars' combinations tend toward difficulty.

There will often be two or more related events, the first occurring as transiting Mars

is conjunct to a planet and subsequent activity at the sextile, square, trine, and/or opposition. Alternatively, what begins at the conjunction may be finalized or taken a step further at the square and then the opposition. The hard contacts are generally more productive of activity than the softer aspects. Sometimes these recurrences coincide with contacts formed due to Mars' retrograde cycle, as well. In this case, it may be the first conjunction of Mars to a planet that starts a cycle, with the result brought to bear at its final conjunction to the same planet. Since the retrograde cycle of Mars is quite lengthy, aspects formed during these slower transits are on par with outer planetary transits and should be considered exceptionally potent. The slower movement allows a larger window of opportunity for stimulation from other transits coming at the same time.

Contacts to the angles tell of major peaks in activity for the year. Watch as activity begins to accelerate as Mars approaches an angle, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away. The first and tenth house cusps are exceptional points of activity. It is also wise to anticipate a significant degree of activity at the time Mars contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction.

Mars also stimulates and brings about an unfolding of activity associated with significant configurations within the return chart when it forms transiting contacts. If the return chart holds several planets in nearly the same degree, although in different signs, this will be a sensitive degree. As Mars reaches this degree in any of the signs, it will stimulate several planets all at once, thus the dates of these transits will generally correspond with notable events.

An unusually active time period is found when Mars contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for the energies of Mars, and the planet reflects an already unique set of energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy resulting is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle, sign, planet, aspects, and house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If Mars, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal its influence, although affairs may tend to remain low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act to greatly stimulate Mars-related activity

and usually reflect an event of special note.

Another point of emphasis is found when Mars enters the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since these positions of Mars are extremely sensitive. Called the *Aries Point degrees*, these include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of magnitude and far-reaching circumstances. There is worldly involvement in one's personal affairs and those outside the normal circle possess weighty influence. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or opposition from transiting Mars to another planet or point in the return, which also lies in an Aries Point degree. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time. Outside assistance may be required or a professional expert consulted. One thing is certain, whatever takes place will have a great impact and the event will be instilled in one's memory. Tabulate the exact dates that transiting Mars makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points, because unless an affliction exists, it provides an excellent opportunity to be in the right place at the right time.

Mars' Transiting Aspects

The following aspect sets describe temporary conditions based on the contacts formed by Mars in the return chart to other return or natal planets and to ascertain the type of activity coming due from the transiting contacts of Mars through the return. However, they can also be loosely applied to judge the condition of Mars in the natal horoscope, in which case the aspects describe lifelong tendencies. Each of the contacts made by Mars in its transit through the return, either to a return or natal planet, will have a bearing on events taking place.

Any aspect of Mars to the Moon signifies issues and events relating to the home, family, mother, or mother figure, and is similar to a fourth-house transit of Mars. Fluctuations and changes are occurring within the family and within the domestic scene. A dynamic woman is likely to be a source of support or challenge. The combination suggests the possibility of a new living situation: a move or an event that temporarily disrupts the living conditions. The masculine/feminine element between these two bodies may reflect domestic quarrels with one's mate and with adverse aspects, this or some other upset within the domestic environment may be anticipated. A key phrase that often plays out with the stressful aspect is "a bull in the china closet" and may manifest in a quite literal sense or in a more

psychological sense. Accidents or health problems are sometimes noted with the adverse aspects, though these circumstances may surround the mother or another family member.

Mars in aspect to the Sun describes how well one's initiative is working with the life direction or purpose. An easy aspect between Mars and the Sun should be considered very strong, able in most cases to provide a certain amount of protection against other challenging aspects Mars receives. Mars is warmed by the Sun, and in the positive aspects, the individual radiates good intentions through personal actions. These two in conflict indicates that the individual could be working against his or her best interests. Since the Sun rules the father and other important authority figures, they tend to be either of support and reinforce one's personal efforts or they act in a manner that challenges every step, depending on the aspects. Afflicted, this contact could warn of injuries or health problems either for the individual or for an important authority figure.

The Mars-Mercury aspect is quite important since it shows how well the mental faculties are working with the urge to initiate action. With any of these aspects there are some advantages, including an increased ability to negotiate or debate. Decisions are made quickly and precisely. Thought patterns

are stimulated and progress can be made by writers and by those whose work depends on mental energy and agility. Formal agreements may be involved in one's personal agenda, and the hard aspects suggest confrontations or some degree of verbal conflict with those who might threaten one's actions. An afflicted aspect suggests impulsive speech, haste, or carelessness in judgment. The contact between Mercury and Mars is also highly indicative of mechanics and movement. Mechanical or transportation problems may arise at the less fortunate contacts. Anything put in writing is of extreme importance. Caution in the area of signed agreements and other important written documentation is advised, especially if either planet is retrograde.

The combinations of Mars with Venus often indicate that the passions have been aroused. Such passions could be along the lines of art and creativity, or along social lines. These contacts reflect upon the ability to get along harmoniously with others, especially those of the opposite sex. There is potential for new beginnings in the area of romance as well as in other relationships, and the contact is very basic to sexual harmony. With any of the aspects one could be "in love with love," and a thorough study of all the influencing factors is recommended before making serious new commitments. Venus is also representative of physical and material comforts, and with any of these aspects, there could be an increased passion for spending. With positive aspects, the individual handles busi-

ness in a way that assures others that they, too, will benefit from his or her success, thus they are usually very supportive.

When Mars' reactivates its own place in the chart, all of Mars' potential is stimulated. A certain amount of energy will arise out of this contact due to a stimulation of the natural competitive urges regardless of any other aspects. Especially in this instance both the natal and the return Mars should be examined for potential. If restraint and caution are applied in the affairs ruled by Mars, great accomplishments can be achieved. With any of the hard aspects to an afflicted Mars, matters could get out of hand. Rebellious tendencies should be curbed and an effort made to maintain control. Open confrontations are common with this position, and with corroborating themes, could become physical. Similar to Mars' aspects to the Sun, a "man to man" connotation exists with these aspects, and one tends to follow through regardless of interference. Encounters resulting in conflict are most often through associations with masculine types. This contact sometimes reflects on accidents or illness if other chart indications concur.

Mars with Jupiter suggests haste or waste unless in positive aspect, at which

time one enjoys the opportunity to greatly augment material gains. In addition to financial opportunities or a stroke of good luck, there is often a certain freedom of expression. Jupiter is also associated with spiritual benefits and some of the finer contacts reflect new inspiration and a sense of nobility or duty. Generosity and kindness are practiced and associations with those who can be of great assistance prevail at this time. Afflictions between the two may reflect the careless squandering of resources, usually in an attempt to prove one's individuality.. Afflicted aspects sometimes indicate other types of losses, such as physically losing valuables, being the victim of robbery, or a dissipation of physical energy. Expenditures may be increased, and with adverse aspects, a purchase made could turn out to be a bad buy. Jupiter reflects exuberance and a feeling of inexhaustibility for the time, so a common manifestation with the poorer aspects from Mars is to overextend.

Aspects of Mars to Saturn indicate how well the individualistic urges work in accordance with what reality and society accepts or demands. Some balancing between the two is often called for. With any of these aspects, there is a tendency to feel somewhat abused or mistreated, or to have spells of irritable feelings towards others. In most cases, there's no just cause for such feelings—it's just the abrasive combination of these two planets and the predisposition for feeling victimized and threatened. With adverse aspects, especially if Mars is in a retrograde cycle, the desire for revenge can lead to more serious problems, which are likely to boomerang by the end of the period. Authority figures are likely to be the target of negative thoughts and problems with them are most common. Efforts may meet with obstacles or delays all around, and frustration creeps in. In extreme cases, events involving jealousy or treachery could be encountered. A square or opposition between these two frequently indicates restrictions or delays and one may not see the fruits of personal

labors until later.

In aspect with Uranus, Mars' impulse for action is quickened. This aspect can bring one into contact with very new and exciting possibilities and people. There may be opportunities to pioneer in new realms. Especially indicated are areas such as electronics, inventions, or anything extremely old or extremely new. Breakthroughs may come in a flash, and in the very positive aspects, preparations should be made to take advantage of the sudden opportunities that abound. An unexpected set of circumstances could lend great assistance to current efforts or, alternately, they could temporarily deter one from course. In the negative aspects, it is a

reckless time, when taking chances is cautioned against. Situations evolve suddenly and the repercussions of premature action will be of great consequence. Irritability and feelings of antagonism may get out of control, with the temper becoming vicious. The energies of these two in afflicted aspect are extremely hard to curb, therefore accidents can occur due to the recklessness inherent in such a combination. In any case, events evolve quickly and flexibility combined with caution can help offset pitfalls.

The aspects of Mars with Neptune, in all but the very best of aspects, reflect confusion in action. Disturbing elements at a material or psychic level may cast one's actions into temporary confusion. Action may be taken without having all the facts at hand. At other times, a disturbing element vanishes, leaving a ghost in its wake. The imagination is very much stimulated and exceptional inspiration may come to those in the arts when the aspect is promising. The daydreams and fantasies prominent under these aspects may be brought into reality with proper direction. Sexual fantasies are more common and sexual experiences often take on a spiritual quality. In the adverse aspects, peculiar conditions are sometimes attracted as a result of self-gratification in drugs, alcohol, or some other withdrawal from reality. Bad judgment in general or in choosing one's intimates often results in problems. The adverse aspects frequently show a time of physical discomfort, such as illness, accidents, or recovery after an operation, though this could be a reflection of someone else's discomfort. This is the aspect, par excellence, of an insidious depleting of the bodily energies as a result of bad habits or emotional attitudes. Neptune rules liquids and travel so

anything involving either of these could be a source of activity or problems.

With Mars in aspect to Pluto there is either a line of added support and power, or an immovable force barricading the way. These two in beneficial aspect provide great strength, endurance, and accomplishment. There is an unlimited flow of energy and the will is quite powerful. Progress can be made in a short amount of time, especially along the lines of increasing resources. Becoming totally absorbed or even obsessive about goals is common with any of the aspects. Mars in harsh aspect to Pluto can warn of forceful situations or power struggles and sometimes indicates a serious underestimation of effort. The combination is especially dangerous in adverse aspect if similar indications are found elsewhere. Pluto is a lot like Mars in nature, and the primal instinct to push forward sometimes causes one to disregard others while in the pursuit of goals. Sometimes, they or the universe will push back! Other contacts made by

transiting Mars at the same time should always be considered. Afflicted, erroneous motives may result in destructive actions. A very sexual contact, these encounters are intensified. This particular aspect may sometimes reflect the time of a surgery either for the individual or for a close acquaintance.

Illness

If illness will be a surfacing issue, the signature of such will usually be evident in the Mars Return chart. Often, Leo will be rising, and the Sun's rulership of Leo suggests vitality factors. The ruler of the chart is usually afflicted, most frequently by Saturn or Pluto. The Sun and/or the Moon are often involved in stressful aspect to Saturn and/or Pluto. Sometimes Mars is in conjunction with one of the luminaries and both are in adverse aspect to natal or return planets. Either natal or return Saturn and/or Pluto may be found occupying the first house of the return with Saturn tending toward depleted energy and Pluto toward the rise of toxins or sometimes the need for surgery.

Most frequently, it will be when transiting Mars comes into a hard aspect with the return Moon that health problems will arise. If the Sun is the more afflicted of the two luminaries, however, it may be this contact of Mars that triggers the potential for health problems.

The Sun governs hereditary or genetic conditions and illness, while the Moon governs functional problems and the sympathetic nervous system.

Saturn hampers or restricts the smooth

functioning of the physical body. A stressful aspect of Saturn to the Sun indicates that the vital forces may be below par and less able to ward off disease. Saturn demands perfection and these afflictions represent a time of testing and an attempt to eliminate imperfections. When the physical body is found wanting, illness results. In adverse aspect to the Moon, it suggests that the organs of the body are not functioning at optimum level and a less buoyant frame of mind decreases the resistance to disease.

Pluto is frequently prominently involved in one or more adverse aspects due to its eliminating action, in this case to rid the body of toxins that have built up. It produces a healing crisis whereby toxic conditions are forced to manifest openly rather than being left to poison and clog the system.

Although other factors may also indicate illness, these are the ones most often observed. For a serious illness, evidence of such will be shown by several factors. It is important to verify that the potential is shown in the natal chart as well as in the progressed chart for the time under observation before assuming that one or two aspects in the Mars Return

will lead to disease. An illustration of the Mars Return prior to a serious disease is presented later in this chapter.

Accidents

There are generally several signatures in the Mars Return when environmental conditions are conducive for the occurrence of a serious accident. The chart ruler is usually afflicted, most frequently by Pluto. In some cases an afflicted Pluto rules the chart. Mars or Pluto usually afflicts one or both of the luminaries and a conjunction of one of these pairs may be in adverse aspect to natal or return planets. Uranus or Neptune is usually found in the first house of the return chart, and this may be either the return or natal planet. Of the two, Neptune's indications are more serious in nature. Neptune represents the confusion of imperfect perceptions leading to an accident. It also suggests a shock to the finer bodies and/or tension in the supersensory system, which may eventually have to be worked out on the physical level. Interference or a disturbance of a psychic nature may be at the root of serious miscalculations. The appearance of Uranus in the first house suggests the sudden or unexpected fashion in which events transpire, but is also indicative of temporary circumstances and those in which a recovery will take place.

Because the Moon relates to the sympathetic nervous system and bodily function, it or the sign of Cancer is often prominent in the return. Cancer may be rising or

afflicted planets may occupy the sign. Adverse aspects received by the Moon from Mars or Uranus suggests the sudden shocks sustained by the nervous system as well as an interruption to an individual's ability to function. Research shows that there is often a body or point, most frequently the Moon or Ascendant, occupying an Aries Point degree, reflecting the necessity for involvement of outside experts.

Most frequently, it will be when transiting Mars afflicts the return Moon that an accident transpires. The orb of the aspect may be quite wide. It is unfortunate that this cannot be regarded as a hard-and-fast rule, but the fact remains that occasionally Mars will be afflicting the natal or progressed Moon instead of, or in addition to, the return Moon. Depending on the chart calculation, Mars may also be crossing an angle at the time. The precessed chart more often shows Mars in affliction to the Moon, while the non-precessed chart more often shows Mars crossing the Ascendant or Midheaven.

When an accident leads to death, the chart indications are severe. A fixed sign is often rising or there are heavy afflictions within the fixed signs and most of the above factors will apply. The rising sign usually gives indications regarding

the circumstances. Neptune, either natal or return, is often in close conjunction with the return Ascendant. The same triggering effects of Mars to the Moon are in evidence when these events manifest.

It is important to realize that several of the above factors will be combined in the Mars Return for an accident to transpire, and that there are exceptions to the rule. For instance, it may be Saturn or another outer planet afflicting the luminary. Also, the above factors may be found singularly or even in pairs in a Mars Return in which an accident will not occur. It is important to carefully study the natal, progressed, and return chart before assuming that an accident will indeed occur or lead to premature death. Final verification will always be found in the natal chart.

Retrograde Mars

About every two years, Mars goes retrograde and appears to be moving backward through the zodiac from our viewpoint on Earth. During this time period, which lasts about two-and-one-half months, there is an accent on possible reversals in the area Mars is transiting in the chart. Exact aspects made at Mars' stationary points are extremely important. Generally, it is a more positive note to have Mars turn "stationary direct" on a planet than "stationary retrograde." If other aspects are good at the same time, however, this may indicate new opportunities relating to the planet Mars aspects. Although some conflicts, delays, or reversals may be expected if Mars is ret-

rograde, any link of Mars to a planet that it was friendly with in the nativity will usually turn out successfully.

Although the retrograde period lasts only two-and-one-half months, the entire retrograde cycle takes about five months. Mars remains in a small portion of the zodiac, and five months after it turns retrograde, it will finally pass over the initial stationary retrograde degree to bring the cycle to a close. Because of its slow motion, these transits of Mars are on the level of outer planetary transits and very important. All of the contacts it makes in the natal or return chart should be carefully noted and observed.

A question arises if Mars begins a retrograde cycle just after returning to its natal position. In this case, it will "return" three times within a short period.

The mere fact that the retrograde phenomenon is taking place near the time of the return suggests that the individual is already deeply involved with issues represented by Mars. Frequently, a new enterprise has recently been initiated. The first return and resulting chart show the direction in which the individual is heading. The second return, during Mars' retrograde cycle, corresponds with a considerable slowing of forward

progress and indicates that a review process is in order. Adjustments made here could ultimately lead one in an alternate direction, or there may be a need for further effort to get the project off the ground. The last contact and resulting chart show the result of adjustments and things begin to move along more swiftly once again. Research indicates that each chart is valid for the time it is in force and up to the next contact, at which time the new chart takes over. Note exactly the important issues at the time of the first return. Prepare by judging the upcoming "returns," and bear in mind that the universe has a way of presenting things precisely when one is ready for them.

New Enterprise

It is of interest to note how often an individual's decision to launch a new enterprise corresponds with one of Mars' long retrograde cycles and three hits of Mars to natal Mars, producing three returns in a short lapse of time. Such initiative is obviously inspired by the first stimulation of transiting Mars and emphasized by its prolonged contact. With two remaining returns, things can take several turns before the enterprise is off the ground, thus making complications more probable than usual. If possible, one should note the configurations in all three of the returns, as well as the corresponding aspects to natal planets, and try to plan activities according to the best auspices in the charts. Without illustrating the three return charts for each of the two individuals and their experiences, the following short summaries should suffice to demonstrate the strategies suggested.

For one individual engaged in a new enterprise, the choice to go into a partner-

ship and open a restaurant following Mars' retrograde return was unfortunate. For one thing, Mars is more conducive to going it alone and less conducive to partnerships than, say, the Sun or Jupiter. The first direct-motion Mars Return had already taken place. Michael had been working as executive chef, but at the time of his first Mars Return began having problems with his superiors. Transiting Saturn was in opposition to natal Mars. Soon after the retrograde return of Mars to its natal position, Michael quit his job and started his new partnership. Mars and Saturn were still in opposition at that return, and Mars was retrograde, indicating what should have been a review period rather than a start-up period. The time chosen to open the restaurant found transiting retrograde Mars conjunct natal Pluto and Uranus, while opposing natal Saturn. So, things got off to a slow and rocky start. By the time the final return of Mars came around, the picture was looking much better with Saturn out of picture, but by then the new enterprise cycle

was already well underway. The next conjunction of transiting Mars to natal Saturn and opposing natal Pluto and Uranus found the partners changing the menu and the name of the restaurant in an effort to produce more business. Needless to say, the efforts failed and the menu and name were soon changed back. By the time they had the restaurant for one year, they had gone full circle and were back at their original starting point with the same blood, sweat, and tears being expended to get the business rolling. Had Michael waited only six more weeks to put things in motion, it is certain that things would have progressed more smoothly and successfully. Whatever problems he was having when he left his last job were clearly taken along with him, and eventually the new partnership was dissolved with both men losing a great deal of money.

Another individual, with a set of three Mars Returns occurring at almost the same time as Michael, timed her actions much more in tune with the retrograde cycle of Mars. Saturn was, of course, opposing the return and natal Mars, and just a few days prior to the first return, she put the finishing touches on a book that she had been compiling for several months and submitted the manuscript to a publisher. For this type of enterprise, the Saturn-Mars opposition was quite appropriate, reflecting the normal delays involved in getting a response from a publisher or in publishing a book. Just after the second Mars Return and during its retrograde transit, still with a wide opposition from Saturn, she received the conditional acceptance of the manuscript from the publisher. At precisely the time that the third and final Mars Return took

place, she completed the requested revisions and sent off the manuscript once more. At Mars' important transits through the final return chart, the contract was signed and many of the necessary steps were taken toward the eventual publication. A Full Moon in this return suggested the completion of a project, one completion at the onset of the return and another within the return cycle.

The Mars Return at Work

The following case histories and brief summaries illustrate the patterns and activity in the Mars Return as it reflects upon events associated with Mars.

Battle at Hamburger Hill

The first illustration of the Mars Return belongs to one of the few survivors of the battle at Hamburger Hill during the Vietnam War, on which the movie by that name is based (chart 14). Our subject was a sergeant in the army of the 101st Airborne Division. George's progressed chart for the day he was wounded in that battle is illustrated and delineated in chapter 2.

The Mars Return

CENTER
Mars Return
August 20, 1968
Geocentric
Tropical

MIDDLE
George
18, 1947
eocentric

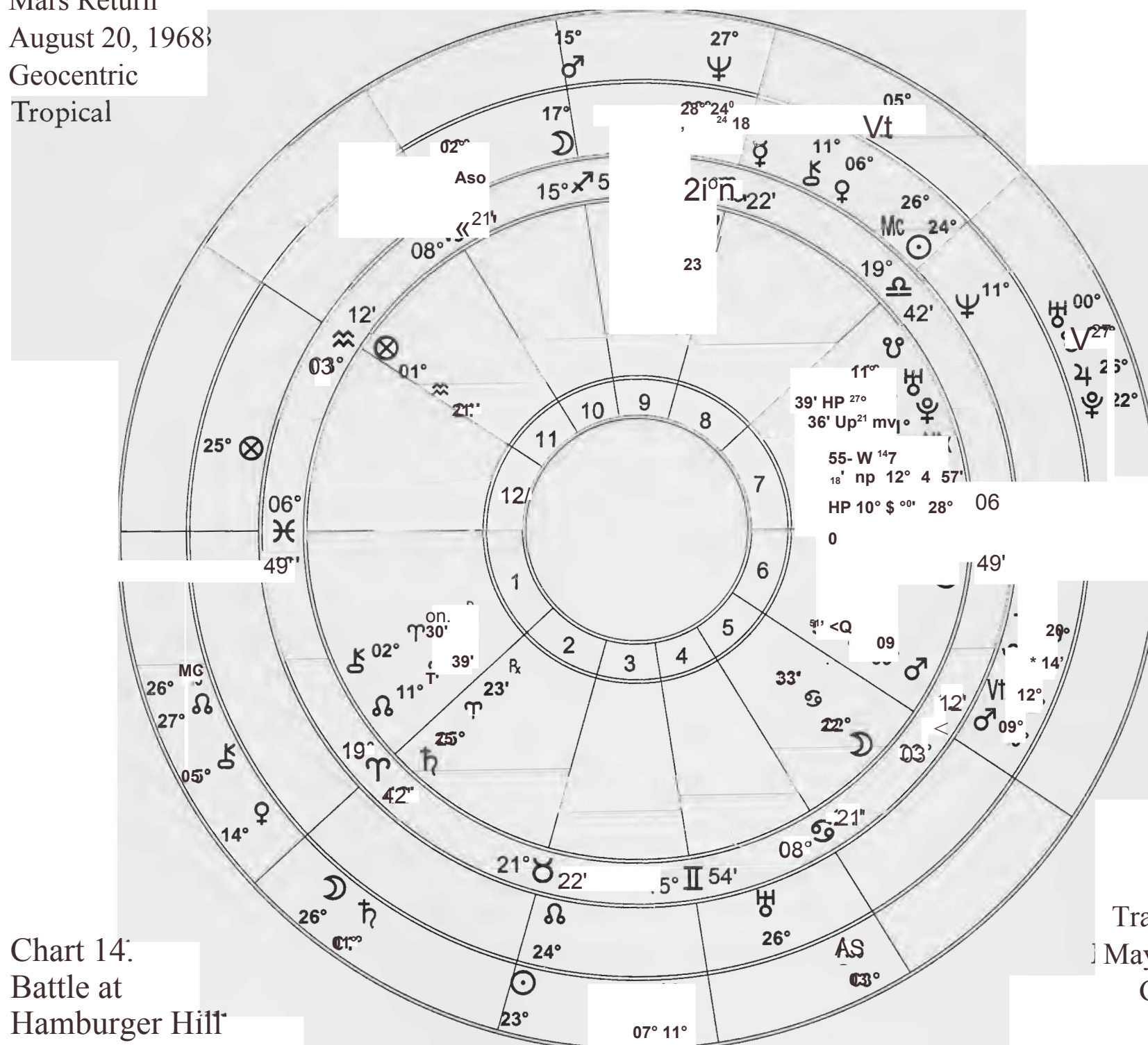


Chart 14:
Battle at
Hamburger Hill

OUTER
Transit Chart
May 14, 1969
Geocentric

In this illustration, the inside chart is the Mars Return, with the natal chart in the middle wheel and the transiting planets occupying the outside wheel for the time he was wounded. The Mars Return is non-precessed.

This set of charts gives an opportunity to focus on some special points. In the Mars Return, Mars is free of any aspects other than a trine to the North Node and a semi-

the sixth-house Sun, corroborates this. Both the emphasis on the sign of Virgo and Mars' position in the sixth house suggest issues of duty and service, and accurately reflect George's status and active duty in the military at the time. At the onset of the return, he was undergoing NCO training to become a sergeant, appropriately depicted with Leo ruling the sixth house cusp and a Leo Mars. Generally speaking, activities that are underway at the onset of a return will be an important foundation for ensuing events. An emphasis on relationships with subordinates is also highlighted in the seventh-house Virgo and planets in that house.

With Pisces rising, twelfth-house associations with institutions and rehabilitation are suggested and this provides agreement to the foregoing Virgo prominence, which aside from the services area, relates to issues of health. Pisces often suggests peculiar weaknesses, wherever found, and paired with the Virgo emphasis, show potential for health problems requiring hospitalization. Numerous configurations exist involving stress to the luminaries, including the return Moon square to Saturn and the natal Sun. The return Sun, in the sixth house, conjuncts natal Saturn while both square return Neptune. The natal Sun in the return eighth house is opposite return Saturn. Return Venus, Vertex, and Pluto square the natal Moon at 17 Sagittarius. Combined, these suggest restrictions to both vitality and bodily functions to a rather severe degree.

Other than the Virgo Stellium, the most angular planets in the return chart are the natal Moon on the Midheaven and natal Uranus in the fourth house. This wide opposition, brought from the natal sixth and twelfth houses onto the angles of the return,

further emphasizes the pattern developing and shows potential for a sudden disruption of the bodily functions. It also depicts unusual living conditions as well as a separation from family.

George's natal Mars-Pluto conjunction in the eighth house is brought to the sixth-house position of the return chart along with natal Saturn. The eighth house reflects an individual's ability to recover from loss, so a connection is found between loss and the area of service and/or health. The natal eighthhouse indicators, with a conjunction of Mars, Pluto, and Saturn suggest that at certain junctures in life, George may be required to handle intense and dangerous situations, so given the whole picture of conditions the configuration becomes focal. It is a relief to see that the threesome are trine natal Moon and Saturn links well to the natal Sun, indicating that George should triumph over the adverse health conditions and restrictions depicted by those aspects.

Since the potential shown in a configuration takes place when the planets involved are again in active aspect, the transiting aspects formed by Mars to natal or return Pluto are likely to trigger these events.

When Mars reached the Midheaven of the Mars Return, it made a retrograde station and lingered there, nearly motionless for over a month, consequently setting the stage for dynamic events at crucial transits of the other planets. At its retrograde station, Mars comes within proper orb to exactly trine natal Pluto, providing an outlet for the natal potential of that conjunction. A conjunction can manifest either positively or negatively, depending on the overall chart, and natal Mars also forms a square to Venus. At its position on the Midheaven of the Mars Return, retrograde Mars is also conjunct the natal Moon and in square to the angular Virgo Stellium. At this point, it is within a 1-degree orb of squaring return Venus, another duplication from the birth chart. All of these aspects suggest some degree of physical stress and correctly identifies the time that the Mars Return potential can manifest easily.

Another factor of note is that Pluto is also transiting retrograde and has come within a 1-degree orb of its original position in the Mars Return chart. Such a factor is often key to timing events. Whenever a planet reactivates its return position due to a retrograde cycle, that day will hold a greater than usual amount of activity in

keeping with the nature of the planet under stimulation. In this case, Pluto reflects George's determined actions and his encounter with an immovable force on the battlefield, as well as the violence and destruction of the war.

At precisely the time George walked into a detonated mine, Mars was the next natal planet to rise, indicating not only the physical nature of the encounter, but also perfectly illustrated the weapons of war and his subsequent medical treatment. George was later awarded the Purple Heart and eleven other medals for bravery. The natal Moon on the return Midheaven showed his coming into public notice. Luckier than 70 percent of his comrades who fought and died in that battle, the favorable aspects into that Mars-Pluto-Saturn conjunction in the natal chart are primary to the relatively positive outcome. Their stimulation by the trine aspect involving Mars and Pluto further insured a positive result and tapped into the positive potential of the natal Mars-Moon trine.

On a final note, the Mars Return, through the sixth-house position of Mars, suggested that focal events would fall in the final trimester of the return period. However, the preponderance of

The Mars Return

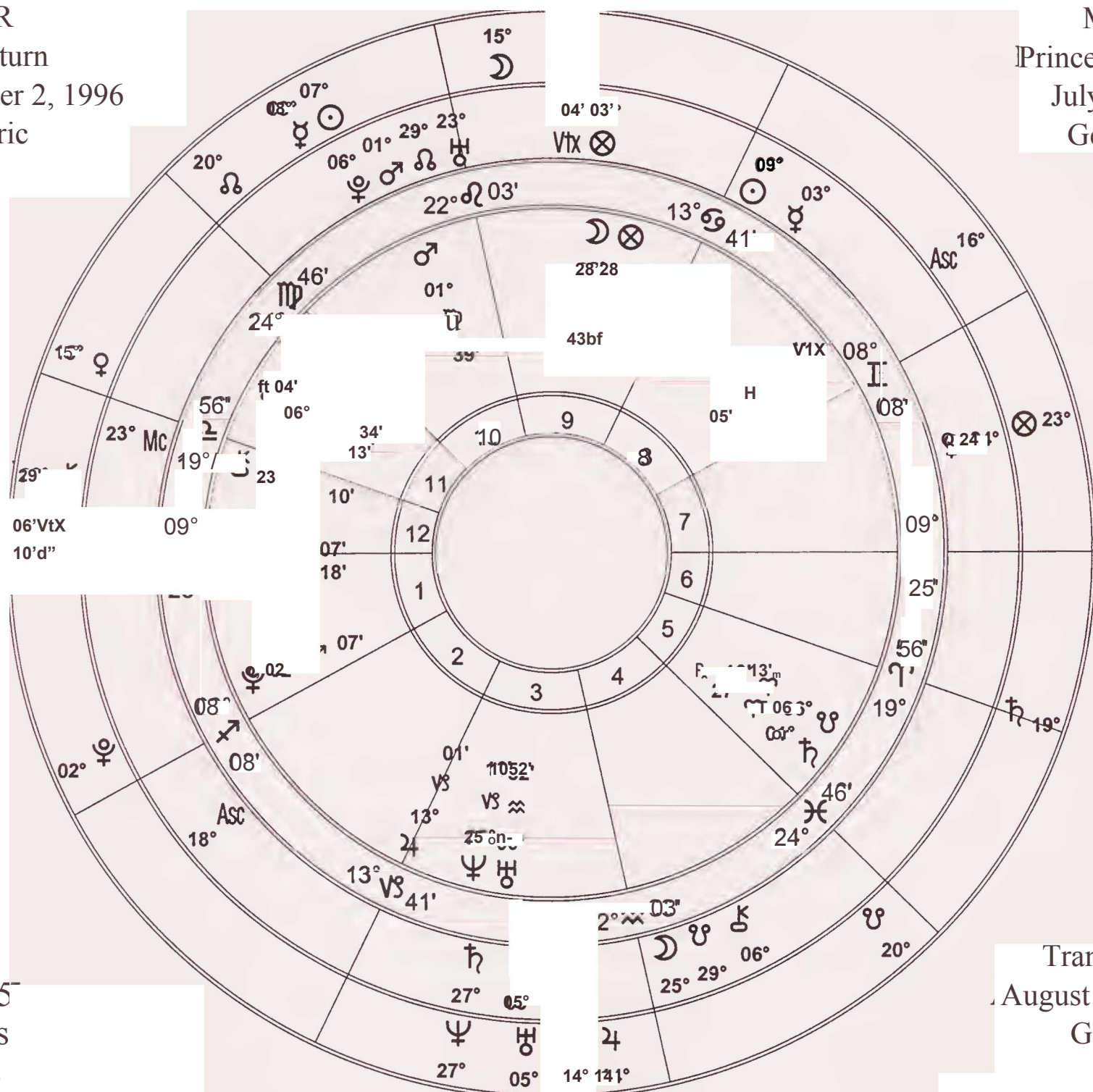
planets in an angular house mitigated this to configurations.

CENTER
Mars Return
November 2, 1996
Geocentric

MIDDLE
Princess Diana
July 1, 1961
Geocentric
Tropical

Chart 15
Princess
Diana's

OUTER
Transit Chart
August 31, 1997
Geocentric
Tropic



bring them about sooner.

Princess Diana's Tragic Death

Because Mars is so frequently active at the time of accidents, the next illustration shows the Mars Return for Princess Diana prior to her fateful accident (chart 15). Some of the same planetary configurations as in the previous illustration are focal in her chart, but with more threatening

In this illustration, the Mars Return is in the center wheel with the natal chart in the middle and the transiting planets at the time of the accident in the outside wheel. The return chart is nonprecessed and has been relocated to

Paris. The difference in the relocated chart is minimal, but more precisely defines the cusp of the first house and the triggering transit of Mars.

In the Mars Return, Scorpio is rising, a fixed sign, indicating conclusions, finalities, and powerful forces. Pluto, ruler of the chart, is squared by Mars, nearly exactly, and Mars is angular. This contact repeats a link from her natal chart and immediately warrants caution. The degree on the Ascendant pulls Diana's natal tenth house to an angle, bringing an emphasis to affairs relating to public appeal and recognition. Mars in the tenth house suggests events that would reflect on her public reputation and points to potential conflict. Mars is ruling the sixth house and the only major contact it makes to the return planets is an exact square to Pluto, showing this as the primary outlet of energy. Mars does, however, form two inconjuncts and becomes the focal planet in a "finger of fate" configuration, also called a *yod*. Though minor aspects may or may not be considered, this configuration suggests a misalignment of energy and subliminal tension. Such tension is often at the root of an accident. Properly directed, Mars would have furnished a creative outlet for the Saturn-Uranus sextile. A *yod* often corresponds to facing a crisis and undergoing a transformation of consciousness that appears particularly fated.

Natal Neptune is brought to the return Ascendant, an aspect associated with

confusion and miscalculation in action, and frequently a signature of a serious, health issue or accident. Return Sun and Mercury are also conjunct the Ascendant. The Sun rules the tenth house of the return, once again spotlighting Diana's public reputation. The combination of Mercury, the Sun, and Neptune on the prominent first house cusp emphasizes a theme of miscalculated efforts and confused action. Mercury rules the eighth house of the return.

The other planet which lies close to an angle is Diana's natal Uranus conjunct the Midheaven. This indicates some unusual or unexpected circumstances in connection with her public reputation and appeal. Though there are several other contacts that prove revealing, these are enough to warrant some warning.

Suggestions from natal Neptune conjunct the return Ascendant include a dissolution of old conditions as well as new entanglements. This obviously indicates her new romantic attachment, as well as the more physical connotations inherent in the contact. There is some degree of illusion or intrigue surrounding her, especially with Neptune's conjunction so close to the return Sun and Ascendant. Both of the latter reflect the physical body and vitality, so the confusion, clouds, and mystery of Neptune might be

expected to have some ramifications to her physical health and vitality. Knowing of all the Neptunian factors surrounding the accident, involving the paparazzi, the tunnel, the drinking driver, etc., this Neptune placement clearly reflects the events that took place, up to and including the conspiracy theory surrounding her death.

The return square between Mars and Pluto indicates an underestimation of effort, forceful conditions, dangerous situations of a quite physical nature, and so on. The crucial fact that the contact is brought from the natal chart into the current return period to combine with Neptunian themes indicates a need for caution.

Add to this the array of contacts that Mars formed on the day of the accident, and they very clearly describe the events that took place. Mars had arrived at the Scorpio Ascendant, the most pivotal point in the chart and always coinciding with eventful times. It had just crossed the natal Neptune and at the very time of the accident was conjunct the return Sun and Mercury. Each of these Mars contacts reveal major themes for the events that unfolded.

In the precessed Mars Return, transiting Mars was square the return Moon, at 9 degrees of Leo on the evening of the accident. Just to add a brief comment, in Diana's Jupiter Return, which occurred the previous Valentines Day, Jupiter had just crossed the seventh house cusp and was conjunct an array of planets, closest to Venus. In that chart, the return Moon was in the degree of the Pleiades at 29 Taurus

and ruling the twelfth house.

Breast Cancer

The next illustration is that of a woman who had breast cancer (chart 16). Here, the Mars Return is shown in the center wheel, natal planets in the middle wheel, and transits at the time of surgery are on the outside wheel. The non-precessed chart shows Leo rising. The Sun, ruling the chart, is in opposition to Pluto, but trine Uranus and sextile Saturn. The trine to Uranus is of essential assistance in this case. Natal Pluto and Saturn, conjunct the return Ascendant and combined with angular Mars and Uranus in the return, indicate the potential for challenging times. When natal Pluto is near the return Ascendant it sometimes indicates a need for surgery, and Saturn's placement shows general restrictions. These two, however, are also in fortunate aspect to the Mars Return Sun.

Three outer planets occupy the sixth house along with the natal Ascendant. Uranus suggests some unexpected developments in the area of health and in conjunction with the natal Ascendant is highly descriptive of the coming change in basic physical appearance, as well as the chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

The Mars Return

Uranus rules the seventh house, showing successful outcome. Return Sun is conjunct

CENTER

Mars Return

May 26, 1996

Geocentric

Tropical

MIDDLE

Veronica June

13, 1947

Geocentric

Tropical

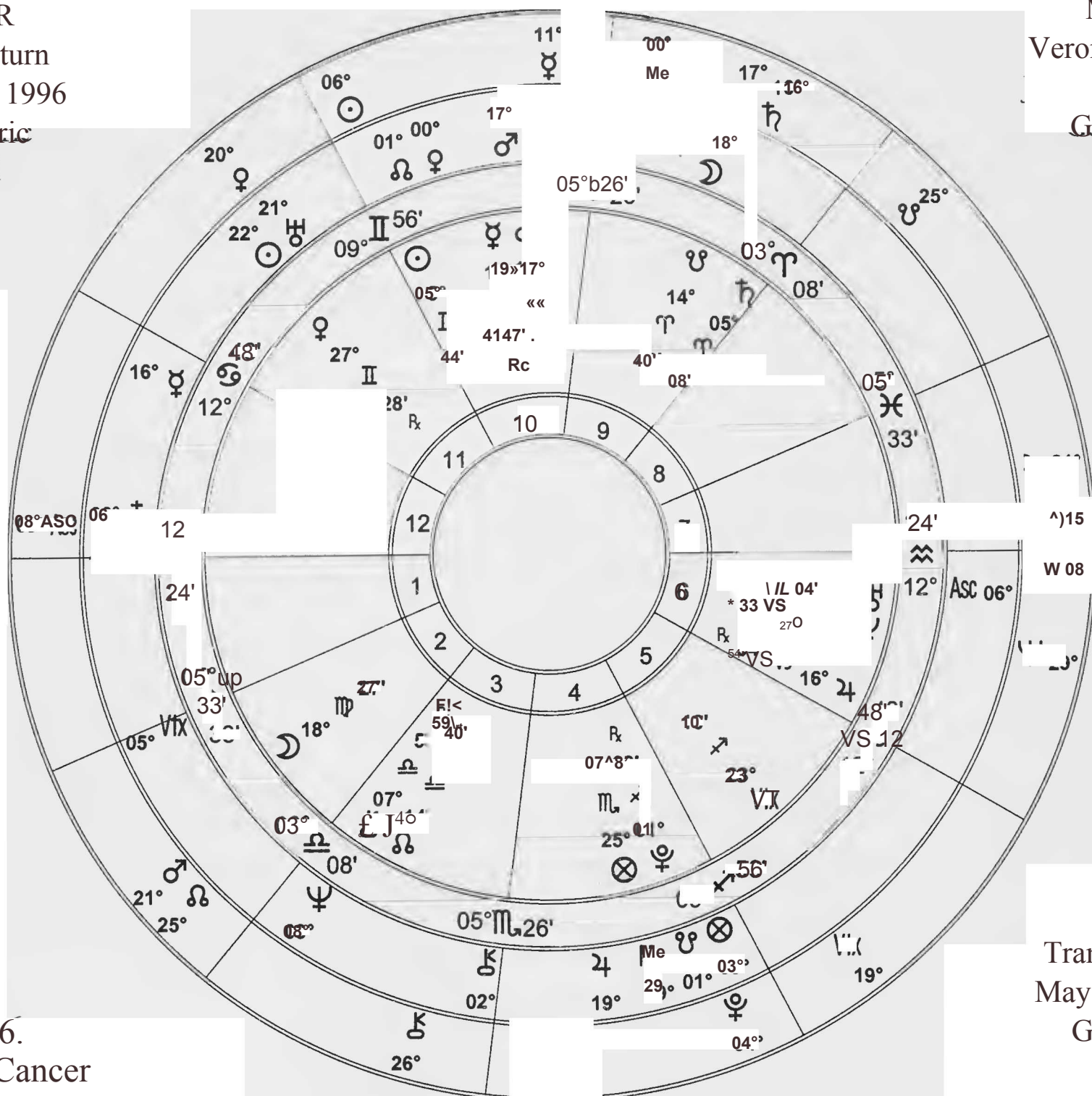


Chart 16.

Breast Cancer

OUTER

Transit Chart

May 27, 1997

Geocentric

these medical consultations. Neptune natal Venus and return Venus is conjunct indicates a frail condition, recovery issues, the natal Sun. Return Pluto occupies the and its rulership of the eighth again fourth house, again suggesting the needed suggests possible surgery. A well- aspected surgery and natal Jupiter there further Jupiter provides some degree of protection. implies a fortunate conclusion.

Involved in a Grand Trine to return Mars and Moon, it is indicative of successful surgery to the breasts. In fact, all of the sixth-house planets are in beneficial aspect.

Several other configurations suggest a

It was at the time that transiting Mars made a retrograde station opposite the return Saturn that she suspected a problem, consulted physicians, and underwent an MRI (magnetic resonance imaging) to find that the tumor was malignant. Treatments began before the actual surgery and continued throughout the long stay of Mars opposite Saturn.

Surgery to remove the malignancy was performed when Mars in its retrograde transit was conjunct the return Moon. Here, it tied into the very promising Grand Trine from the return involving the Moon, Mars, and Jupiter, so essential to the outcome of the surgery. The Mars-Jupiter aspects are especially helpful during surgery and this contact is repeated in a sextile from transiting Mars to natal Jupiter. Mars, at this point, made an entire array of aspects to show the high level of activity encompassing so many areas and the quite challenging time period. In addition to the previous contacts, it was square return Venus, natal Sun and Uranus, while trine return Mercury.

The surgery was a success and a complete recovery made. The final radiation treatments were concluded as Mars made its final square to Saturn. She was delighted when her hair grew back in curls, something she had always wanted. The experience was also instrumental in helping her to get in touch with her inner self on a level that had long been ignored. Her views of her priorities were changed forever.

In the precessed return chart, the Moon, associated with the breasts, was at 0 degrees of Libra, an Aries Point degree and in opposition to Saturn. The sign Cancer was rising.

Broken Leg

The final chart illustration belongs to Evangeline Adams (chart 17). When she was nine years old, she decided to take her sled to school one day. In spite of her mother's warning that she might break her leg, Evangeline was adamant, and her mother always believed in letting her daughter learn through experience. That's exactly what happened. The transiting planets are shown on the outside wheel on the approximate day of the accident. It may have occurred a few days either direction but the aspects of Mars would still have been in evidence.

The non-precessed Mars Return, in the center wheel shows the 0 degree of Cancer rising, an Aries Point degree. The ruling Moon is angular on the Midheaven. Natal Uranus lies near the first house cusp of the return, showing sudden or unexpected events of a personal nature. Saturn is unusually afflicted and Saturn, of course, has rulership over the bony structure. Return Saturn is involved in a Grand Cross and the

The Mars Return

opposition it forms to the return Uranus ties ninth house. Here, it conjuncts her natal

CENTER

Mars Return

November 7, 1875

Geocentric

MIDDLE

Evangeline Adams

February 8, 1868

Geocentric

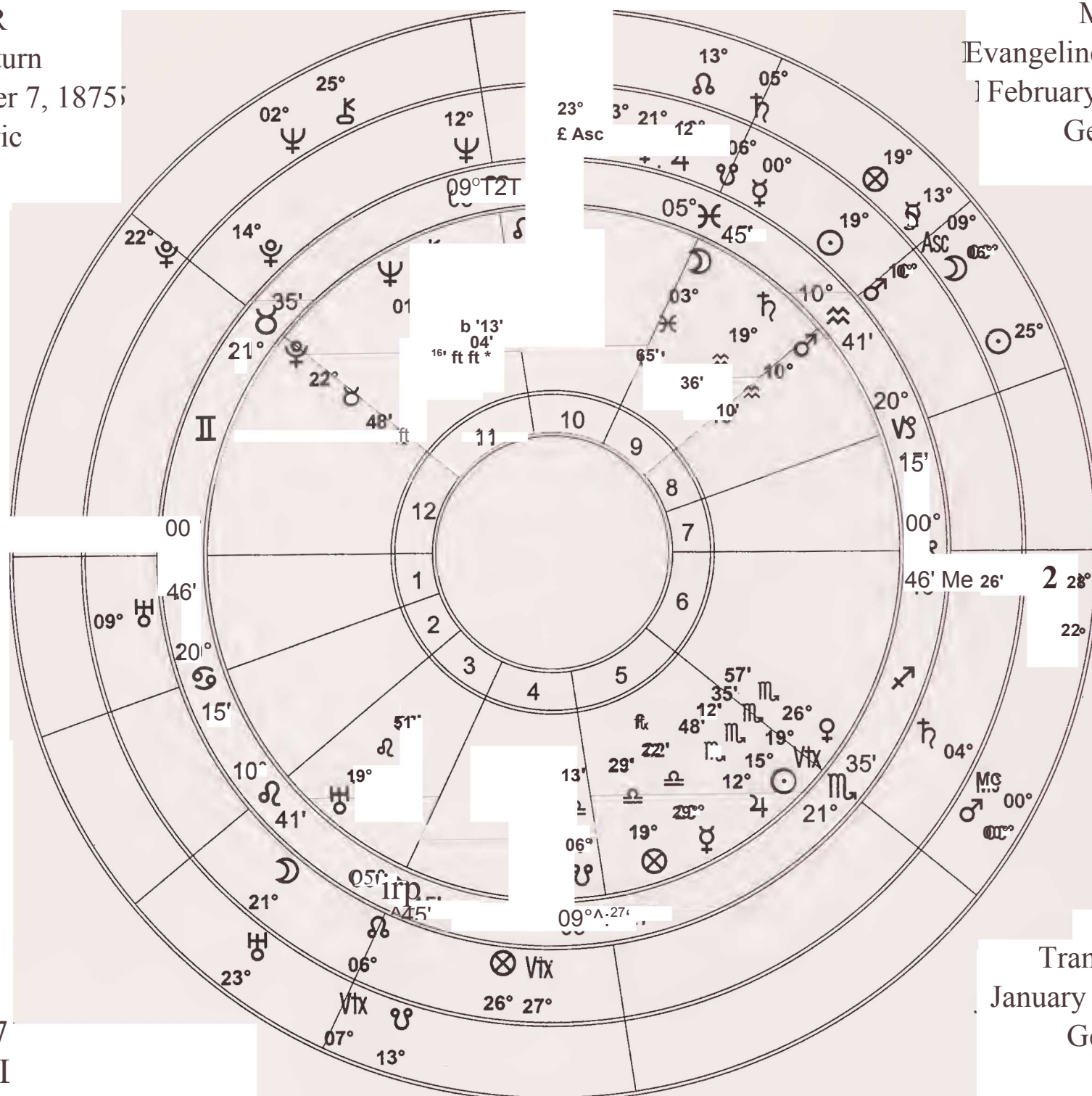


Chart 17
Broken I

OUTER
Transit Chart
January 15, 1877
Geocentric

in to her natal Sun-Moon opposition. These Moon and involved in the Grand Cross that lie across the third and ninth houses of pulls in natal Sun, Mars, and Pluto. Natal transportation and the Mars Return Sun, Mars falls precisely on the cusp of the ninth ruling the third house is afflicted while house and the affliction there to return within a conjunction to the sixth house Jupiter suggests cusp. Retrograde Mercury further exemplifies problems with transportation and forms an opposition to return Neptune, indicating misjudgment. Return Uranus lies in the third house of the return and rules the

some carelessness in action that will manifest at that point.

On the particular day she met her fate, transiting Mars had just entered the sixth house of the return and was square to the return Moon while conjunct natal Saturn. Mars and transiting Saturn were forming a square between them, repeating a link seen in the natal and return charts. In those charts, however, they were combined by a conjunction in the return and by a sextile in the natal chart, so the misfortune was minimal.

Perfectly mirroring broken bones through an accident, the transiting Ascendant at the time when would have been on her way to school on the sled was within conjunction to natal Mars and nearing return Saturn. All were in Aquarius, ruling the legs.

The Mars Return Series

The Mars Return period can be broken down into smaller time increments using a series of charts that are used with the Mars Return as the foundation. Although many will not find this necessary, for those who have a particular need to know about a Mars-ruled event, the accompanying series is quite helpful. Each of the charts in the series covers a period of about six weeks, except during the retrograde cycle of Mars. To calculate the series, use a point return of Mars to its natal degree into each of the signs.

If return Mars is at 4 Gemini 25, the series would be the charts that result from Mars' entry to this exact placement in each of the remaining signs. About six weeks or so after the Mars Return, Mars would reach 4 Cancer 25, and then 4 Leo 25 in another six weeks, and so on. The configurations resulting from the precise time this personal degree is activated by Mars symbolizes the trend for the immediate future.

These charts can be checked to see which house of the Mars Return is rising. This shows areas that are accentuated for the next few weeks. Between this and the characteristics of the rising sign, a fairly good idea of what is coming can be established. A simple compilation of the aspects formed by Mars in this chart and to natal planets offers a good idea of the trend for the following six-week period. Important connections between planets in the new chart to those in the Mars Return provide further detail.

Within this series, there will usually be one or more charts that closely match the Mars Return itself, by rising sign and house positions. It can be identified as most important for the entire period, and one may anticipate the unfolding of significant events that were promised in the Mars Return. Other special factors to look for would be the position of a planet in the Aries Point degree or in one of the degrees related to the Aries Point

degree. Dynamic events relating to this planet will take place. The house ruled by such a planet and all factors surrounding it should be examined.

Note that if one is using the non-precessed method for calculating the Mars Return, as recommended, the remaining series of charts should correspond, with attention to the non-precessed degree of Mars. A discussion on precession is found in chapter 3.

Note

1. Robert Hand, *Horoscope Symbols* (Westchester, PA: Whitford Press, 1981).

Chapter Nine

THE JUPITER RETURN

Symbolism of Jupiter

One of the nice things about the Jupiter Return is that the same chart is used for a full twelve years. The contacts made by transiting Jupiter to the angles and planets of the chart can be anticipated well in advance. The other nice thing is that as the “greater benefic,” Jupiter reflects blessings, honors, protection, and other wonderful things, so many of the turning points associated with Jupiter’s transit through the chart are those we all look forward to. It is a virtual gold mine in both what it represents and the information that can be found!

Jupiter’s return to its natal position sets the stage, so to speak, for a twelve-year span of experience in regard to material ups and downs, spiritual growth, and fluctuations in one’s level of social consciousness. The chart calculated for this return shows the coming trend regarding these matters, reflecting situations and turning points that will assist or negate the desire to expand one’s world. The point in time of Jupiter’s return to its natal position often coincides with a transition period, in which an old phase of lifestyle fades and a new phase begins. The time of the Jupiter Return itself frequently

finds one undergoing an increase of faith and hope for the future.

Interpreting the Jupiter Return

Initially, the return chart should be examined for features just as if it were a natal chart. The only difference is the time period for which it will be in effect. The overall chart configurations relate to one's urge to expand over the course of the next several years. Tight configurations and their meanings should be noted, as well as sign and house prominence. The overall pattern of the chart should be studied. The ruler of the return Ascendant is of primary concern, as well as the most elevated planet in the chart, whether east or west of the Midheaven. It is not more important than a planet close to an angle, but if there is no great emphasis to another planet the most elevated may be given precedence. A planet in the return that aspects both the Sun and the Moon is of special import, showing a response of that planet on two significant levels, the instinctive or personal level as well as an essential and individual level. Hemispheric and elemental prominence should also be considered.

The rising sign of the return provides an excellent indication of the people and affairs that will be paramount in the ability or lack thereof to expand financially or socially. If the sign's ruler forms fortunate aspects to both the return planets and natal

planets, an assessment of the sign's association shows activities to pursue in earnest and with good chance of success. If the ruler is afflicted, be wary of taking risks in the affairs associated with the rising sign and apply caution in dealing with the people signified by the sign. Efforts to expand and integrate more closely with the rest of the world will also be shown by the rising sign's attributes. The house naturally corresponding with the rising sign tells the story, so if Taurus is rising, second-house affairs are an area of concern and attention.

In judging the Ascendant or any of the houses, the fixed signs bring qualities of stability or permanence, mutable signs show fluctuations or a preparatory stage, and cardinal signs indicate personal action. Blending the elements reveals an initiation of activity if a fire sign; practical concerns if an earth sign; intellectual interests if an air sign; and psychological issues if a water sign. Further consideration of the particular sign will bring even greater definition to the rising sign as well as to each of the individual houses and the affairs they govern. If Aries were rising, one would know that it is time for personal action and initiative and that new enterprise is likely. The time period should be quite dynamic and the position and aspects of Mars very important in determining the outcome of such initiative.

The signs on the angles will normally be most indicative of the long-term trend unless there is a heavily occupied sign or house, in which case the sign characteristics and/or issues pertaining to the emphasized house must also be accounted for.

The natal house that is brought to the Ascendant position of the return is most important and should also be a preliminary consideration. Since the Ascendant is an area of energy manifestation, conditions and the environment will provide an ideal outlet for events and issues associated with this natal house. The people, issues, and affairs of that house will occupy the attention to some extent.

The houses ruled and occupied by return Jupiter is quite significant. The house ruled shows the area where longterm efforts will be taken to expand while the house occupied shows the route taken to achieve this goal. Aspects to return Jupiter indicate the ease with which success can be achieved, and shows precisely the assistance one will receive as well as the challenges to be encountered. It is beneficial to have Jupiter well aspected to the chart ruler since this has some bearing on one's physical vitality and personality attributes. To have it well aspected to the ruler of the house in which it falls lends great support to all endeavors. Of course, the sign occupied by Jupiter remains characteristic to its functioning. In Aries, one is most likely to take steps toward personal expansion through pioneering

enterprise.

In return charts the house polarity factor must also be considered since opposing houses represent two poles of the same principle. While the house occupied by Jupiter is most revealing, the people and affairs governed under the opposite house will also be relevant.

To add more substance to a simple interpretation of the house occupied by the Jupiter, a few other guidelines are valuable. Pivotal circumstances and the deepest personal affairs correspond with the angular houses: one, four, seven, and ten. These correspond with turning points and increased activity as conditions are changing and things are happening. Succedent houses—two, five, eight, and eleven—can be counted on to represent issues involving resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions, finalities, and the opportunity for stabilization. The cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. These are the third, sixth, ninth, and twelfth houses. While it is a somewhat obscure area of the chart, preparations made at this latter stage promote personal growth and are crucial to later developments and long-range achievements. Steps taken by an individual with the cadent positions often remain in the background and do not reach full maturity until a later stage in their development, frequently at the

next contact of transiting Jupiter to one of the angles.

To further define the houses, consider the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses. They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

If the return chart shows Jupiter on an angle, tightly configured, or in conjunction with several other planets, it will be quite an eventful period for Jupiter-ruled affairs and the return period is likely to start out with a burst of activity. If Jupiter is in an angular house, the first one-third of the return period will be emphasized in regard to events associated with Jupiter. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle portion of the return period that shows an increase in these activities, and the latter

portion of the period will be accentuated if Jupiter falls in a cadent house. While the house position of Jupiter alone is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for any heavy concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

The planet(s) forming the closest conjunction(s) with any of the four angles of the chart should be given precedence in reading the chart. Of these, the first and tenth house cusps are more prominent positions than the fourth and seventh, unless there are additional factors to consider. The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so events linked to the nature of the planet are given a superb outlet. These angular planets and their aspects reveal major themes for the period. The natal condition and integration of such a planet is very important to ascertain the probable effects. Not only are the themes associated with the planet paramount for the ensuing period, but the planet further indicates the essence of outpouring energy, the angle tells where it will manifest, and the sign indicates how it will manifest and to what purpose.

As with any return, the natal planets should be inserted onto the wheel to find any important ties to return planets or return house cusps. They will have their own influence when combined with the

return configurations and can be used to extract the particular flavoring of Jupiter's transits through the return. Natal planets arriving on an angle of the return are also provided an ideal environment to manifest their natal potential and are just as important on an angle as a return planet.

A period in which the Jupiter Return shows Jupiter resuming contact with several planets with which it was in natal aspect is of considerable importance and a number of memorable events will occur. Conditions and circumstances that arise during this return period provide an opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized. The type of link is not as important as the fact that a connection has been reestablished.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always bear in mind the radical relationship of the Jupiter to another planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect in the return. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the potential of a later aspect between two planets. If, for example, Jupiter is in square in the return chart to a planet that it was in natal opposition, the potential for stressful circumstances is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of a natal trine, but whatever circumstances arise can be worked out more easily to one's credit and benefit. Conversely, a return trine from Jupiter to a planet in which it was in natal square represents an opportunity to work through some of the stress indicated by the original aspect. While stress may still

manifest, the individual should do all possible to direct efforts toward a propitious outcome. This promotes a healthier integration of the planetary element, steadies the elemental energy, and leads to a matured handling of challenges. If Jupiter in the return repeats a promising aspect found in the natal chart, it might be a time when special opportunities seem to fall in one's lap.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Jupiter Return itself. Planets that Jupiter is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are the most likely to produce stress when Jupiter forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two in the radical chart, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that transiting Jupiter makes as it circles the return will show activity relating to that planet, but contact to a planet in which it was in return aspect will usually prove to hold greater significance. Aspects it forms to natal planets should also be noted, most specifically if tied to a return planet by conjunction or lying on one of the angles of the return.

Finer Points of Interpretation

The houses of the Jupiter Return in which natal planets fall also reveal important details about the ensuing time period. If a return planet falls on a natal planet, then significant events relating to the house occupied by the pair will find them working together, either in harmony or discord. This is determined largely by the natures of the planets, their natal relationship, and by the aspects made to them in the return.

Further assessment provides even greater detail. For example, if a planet in the return is within a degree of aspect to any house cusp, it represents either a line of assistance or challenge in regard to the affairs of that house. The nature of the planet along with the type of aspect determines this influence. Say that a planet forms an exact square to the return second and eighth house cusps. This shows potential reversals in the area of finance. It would be unwise to undertake activity associated with that planet on a day that transiting Jupiter stimulates it as it could result in some degree of financial loss. Additionally, any planet falling on any house cusp will have much to “say” about the affairs of that house for the upcoming time period. This might be either a natal or return planet and a similar handling is indicated, depending on all pertinent factors surrounding such a planet. These planetary connections to cusps are quite pertinent factors.

There is always a significant connection between a house of the return and its corresponding natal house. For instance, the area of the natal chart that is found occupying the twelfth house of the return is an area that is temporarily secluded. There is an element of mystery here, a secret, or a missing piece of data. If it is the natal fourth house lying within the boundaries of the twelfth house of the return, one may need to refrain from disclosing a family matter or there might be a skeleton in the closet. If it were the natal fifth house falling in the area of the twelfth house in the return chart, a child or lover could be in trouble, keeping a secret or misleading one. Each of the houses of the return can be evaluated using this method.

Wherever Gemini is found in the return indicates an area of duplicity or multiplicity. If found on the second house cusp, there may be income from two sources; if on the seventh, two experts may need to be consulted; if on the sixth, one may hold two jobs, have extra work coming in, and be spread exceptionally thin to meet service obligations. If on the first, one may simply be scattered and effort is required to see things through to a completion due to preoccupation. The same treatment can be given each house according to the nature of a sign.

If one of the Moon's nodes falls in conjunction with a return or natal planet, those planetary energies will manifest quite dynamically and associated issues will be emphasized during the return period. A conjunction of a planet with the North Node indicates a quality to be consciously developed, while a South Node conjunction indicates a quality that is already part of the nature and requires little effort to make use of. Again, these nodal conjunctions show dynamic activity whether involving a natal or a return planet. The North Node falling on the return Ascendant provides many benefits for the period. One is easily able to lead, set the pace, and personal timing is excellent for gaining the support and cooperation of others. Falling on the cusp of the seventh house, one tends to "lean" on another and benefits often come through the partner.

The first natal planet to rise to the Ascendant of the return chart is often quite informative of the trend to follow, with the Sun, Venus, and Jupiter inclining to favorable times, benefits forthcoming, and pleasant social affairs. Saturn suggests business dealings, issues involving authorities, or could mean delays involving important matters. Each of the planets will stamp their personal signature to the time period when first to rise. If this natal planet lies within 5 degrees of the Ascendant, but occupies the twelfth house, it may be considered as the rising planet unless another planet lies closer to the Ascendant.

The astrologer should always allow the chart to lead.

Judging Points of Energy and Timing Activity

The transits of Jupiter across the angles of the chart will generally coincide with some of the most eventful periods of the twelve-year cycle. The angular transits often time major turning points as well. Activity begins to accelerate as Jupiter approaches the angles, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away. The first and tenth house cusps are exceptional points of activity. It is also wise to anticipate important activity at the time Jupiter contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction. Jupiter will also stimulate prominent configurations in its transit through the chart.

As Jupiter crosses any house cusp of the chart, a natural shift of energy takes place, as an effort to expand in this new department of life develops. The houses are interpreted using all of the traditional tools, such as quadrants and hemispheres. Accordingly, the cadent houses represent a time of obscurity as shifting circumstances lead to preparations for the climactic point in time when Jupiter reaches an angular cusp. The Midheaven represents the most public area of the chart while the fourth house shows more private concerns.

As transiting Jupiter moves through the houses of the return chart, forming contacts to the various return planets, important life events that correspond with the planetary natures will take place, and these events will always have a close bearing on one's material comfort or status. At the same time, they will reflect changes, for better or worse, in one's relationship with the world at large and at a social level. The dates that these contacts are exact, with the conjunction and opposition the most powerful, will usually find one in the very midst of consequential issues. Since Jupiter is retrograde for an extended period each year, there will often be two or three contacts to a particular planet during its slower movement. These transits show issues that are not quickly wrapped up, but call for attention over an extended period of time before they are finalized. The separate dates on which the contact is exact will usually coincide with crucial decisions and increased activity regarding the issue at hand.

Another way in which the contacts work out occurs when Jupiter is traveling very quickly. To illustrate, a trine aspect to a planet that is ultimately going to produce stress may coincide with the initial surfacing of a problem and the square that follows about a year later will see the result. In order to measure the potential of a planet to assist or resist the expansion urges, one must consider the type of aspect it forms to Jupiter in the return chart. Obstacles are

most likely when Jupiter in its transit forms a challenging aspect to a planet that it was unfavorably aspecting in the return chart. A conjunction does not necessarily fall into this category and it frequently shows a time when the energies of the two adversely aspected planets can be brought into harmony. The times of greatest ease and progress are when Jupiter again forms a favorable contact to a planet that it was favorably aspecting in the return. If it contacts a planet that it was not in aspect to in the return chart, the type of contact is generally descriptive of the time period and relative to events signified by the planet so aspected. These factors can be applied generally, but it is always important to consider the inherent nature of the planet in aspect as well as the potential shown in the natal chart.

An unusually active time period is found when Jupiter contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for the energies of Jupiter, and the planet reflects an already unique set of energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy resulting is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle, sign, planet, aspects, and

house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If Jupiter, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal the area and type of activity stimulated, though affairs tend to remain low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act to greatly stimulate Jupiter and often reflect an event of special note.

If the return chart holds several planets in nearly the same degree, although in different signs, it will be a sensitive degree. As Jupiter reaches this degree in any of the signs, it will stimulate several planets all at once, thus the dates of these transits will generally correspond with more spectacular events.

Another point of emphasis is noted when Jupiter enters the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since these positions of Jupiter are extremely sensitive. Called the *Aries Point degrees*, these include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of magnitude and far-reaching circumstances. There is worldly involvement in one's personal affairs and those outside the normal circle

possess weighty influence. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or opposition from transiting Jupiter to another planet or point in the return that lies in one of the Aries Point degrees. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time and/or affairs have worldly connotations. Outside assistance may be required or a professional expert consulted. One thing is sure, whatever takes place will have a great impact and the event will be instilled in one's memory. Tabulate the exact dates that transiting Jupiter makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points. Unless extreme afflictions are involved, this provides an excellent opportunity in regard to timing and to be in the right place at the right time.

Upcoming eclipses should be noted in case they stimulate an important configuration or point in the return chart. They are quite powerful even when occurring on a house cusp. A table of eclipses through the year 2050 can be found in *Predicting Events with Astrology*.

Jupiter's Transiting Aspects

The following may be applied to Jupiter aspects in the return as well as to later transiting aspects formed by Jupiter to the return planets or natal planets.

Jupiter's contacts to the outer planets in the return are genuinely profound, both in the experiences they reflect and in the long-range teaching value of such experiences. These contacts appear to coincide with a harvesting time for previous actions and behavior. One reaps rewards for honorable behavior and for specific dealings in regard to unspoken social laws. A well-aspected Jupiter in the natal chart shows an innate understanding of such moral concepts. If one's practices have followed a code of ethics, especially as they relate to acceptable social standards, the contacts of Jupiter to planets in the return chart should correspond with favorable events and expanded influence. If social laws have been ignored or a less ethical path has been taken, these contacts may show a time of material and/or social repercussions. Certainly, some stressful aspects of Jupiter should be expected, and in its transit through the return chart, it will square and oppose every planet. The poor aspects signify particular times and areas of weakness or may show a potential source of challenge. The handling of these will affect one's worldly benefits and the ability to further expand one's influence.

When Jupiter contacts Pluto, a revision is in order. An element of life that previously appeared to be permanent will now require a retread. Something may have to be eliminated in order to make way for social or spiritual growth, and because this "something" has become a fixture it isn't

easily set aside. Depending upon what it is that is eliminated, material resources may be affected. This transit can be quite intense, with a sensation of being squeezed or suffocated prior to coming to terms with just what is required to assist growth. Individuals coming into the life at this point frequently act as agents for change. Though such persons might play only a brief role, the association may be quite profound and, through such an acquaintance, one is finally able to "see" the issue that is crying out for adjustment. The contact sometimes corresponds with separations or breaks in relationships, intimate or otherwise, when one of the partners has ceased to grow from the association. If handled well, a sense of relief and the dawning of wonderful new opportunities follow this transit. The additional aspects formed by Jupiter while in contact with Pluto will contribute to the overall experience of this aspect. Since endeavors begun when Jupiter squares or opposes Pluto are not always wise, these will frequently be the area under review at the next hard aspect of Jupiter to Pluto.

Jupiter in aspect to Neptune can manifest in a number of ways. It can be highly inspirational, though the benefits coming from such inspiration may not be

immediately apparent. This aspect can lead one to see the world through rosecolored glasses, and depending upon the ability of an individual to put visions into concrete form, there may be no financial benefits of any kind. In fact, the highly spiritual quality of the combination suggests that benefits may be more along the lines of increased faith and sounder belief systems than material or financial gain. This potential is witnessed in one's willingness to forget oneself while aiding and assisting others. In this instance, there is often a mysterious flow of material sustenance coming in, though it may be just barely adequate to meet one's needs, as if in reward for good deeds. However, with assisting aspects, this contact frequently coincides with better material conditions in general, a reprieve from financial worries, and occasionally living in the very lap of luxury. Stressful contacts of Jupiter to Neptune may give rise to extreme confusion, living under an illusion, or a temporary involvement with drugs or alcohol. An attraction to strange associations and the peculiar may lead to rather bizarre conditions or situations. Any contact of Jupiter to Neptune also tends toward travel.

Jupiter's contacts to Uranus often signify some unexpected twists and turns to current conditions. These may originate from a strong inner desire to expand one's boundaries. The link to Uranus provides the potential to overthrow any and all conditions that restrict the urge to be free. The rapid changes taking place may also stem from outside elements, and someone may enter the life who acts as a catalyst to new breakthroughs in freedom. The easier aspects, such as the trine, sextile, and often the conjunction, are conducive to opportunities that will expand one's realm of influence. The square and opposition show times when one should apply caution, especially in handling situations that could damage one's honor or character and undo virtually all that has been accomplished up to this point. The house ruled by Uranus lends insight to the probable surprising elements to arise. If ruling the tenth house, for example, unforeseen and problematic situations involving a boss could occur at

each of the hard contacts of Jupiter to Uranus, while the easier aspects may coincide with career boosts.

Hard contacts of Jupiter to Saturn frequently find circumstances that temporarily pinch the finances or restrict one's ability to expand materially. Career choices may significantly alter a previous flow of resources and income potential. One's patience is called upon as restrictions and limitations may be imposed by an authority figure. Nevertheless, Jupiter's contact with Saturn may ultimately prove to be a very stabilizing influence. The time period just following this transit often finds a permanent improvement in material circumstances

and available resources. Paradoxically this may come about through an alliance with an authority figure. The nature of the aspect will indicate the appropriate preparations to make prior to the transit.

Aspects formed by transiting Jupiter to return Jupiter are quite notable. A particular point in which the wasteful energies associated with Jupiter are likely to emerge is when it squares or opposes its own return position. Be aware that what looks like certain opportunity will later prove to be a liability with many regrets. One is better off to follow gut instinct rather than become a victim of wishful thinking. Losses that occur, sometimes as a result of foolish actions, will occur in the area of Jupiter's transit in the return chart and in relation to the house ruled by Jupiter. A tendency toward arrogance is associated with this transit, leading to inappropriate decisions. One may feel superior to others or use unfair treatment in dealings, which can have serious repercussions. In the beneficial aspects, judgment is sound, timing good, and one has a natural benevolent disposition in regard to others that results in personal fortune of one sort or another. Aspects formed by Jupiter to the other return planets at the same time will contribute to the potential of this transit.

Aspects made by Jupiter to the inner planets are timely as well, coinciding with events in keeping with the nature of the planet contacted. Jupiter contacts to the Sun or Venus tend to signify some of the most

promising times, especially by conjunction, unless they were in affliction with Jupiter in the birth chart. These can usually be counted on to bring some important personal benefits. With Mars, there may be profit or loss through new enterprise and risk-taking. Overextending oneself, becoming careless in actions and the tendency toward wastefulness are common with the hard contacts. In the more fortunate aspects, wise and honorable actions make this a time to forge ahead with confidence.

Family relationships and events are highlighted with contacts to the Moon, while a utilization of knowledge and applying intellect are prominent at Mercury's contacts. Mercury's contacts also highlight periods of increased concern with issues of transport and important agreements. The condition of the return Moon and Mercury, including aspects received by them in the return, will greatly influence events at these Jupiter contacts.

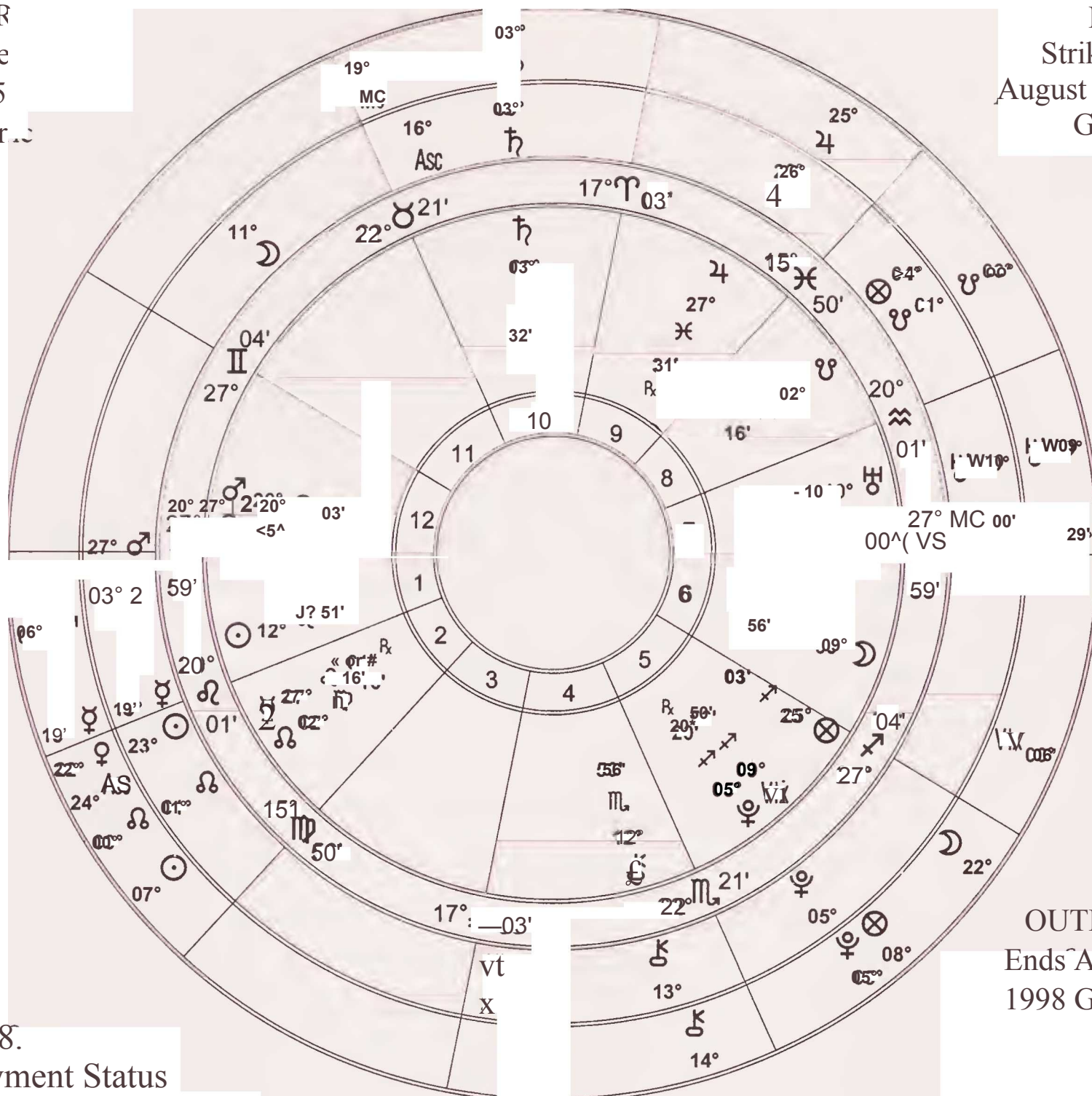
The Jupiter Return at Work

The following case history provides the opportunity to demonstrate how the Jupiter Return can be used in combination with the progressed chart as well as with other returns to find predominating

themes, timing, and to answer questions. It Employment Status

CENTER
Lunar Re
August 5
Geocentric
Tropical

MIDDLE
Strike Begins
August 15, 1998
Geocentric



encompasses all of the tools at an astrologer's disposal. In this example, the individual's progressed configurations led to an investigation of both the Jupiter and Solar Returns, which led in turn to the Lunar Return where the final answer was found in regard to timing. The chart illustration shows the Lunar Return in the center wheel, with two sets of transiting configurations in the outer wheels.

Anthony had an unusual array of hard aspects forming in the progressed chart (chart 18). Eight of the nine major aspects involved either an angle, the Sun, or Jupiter, including an opposition between

the latter two. Of the eight aspects, six were squares or oppositions. Both Jupiter and the Sun pertain to benefits and beneficiaries, and are significant in financial matters as well as issues relating to expansion and establishment. Further, in Anthony's nativity, the Sun rules the second house and Jupiter the sixth, so financial matters are again stressed, as well as potential difficulties at work. Since both are considered benefic in nature, stressful aspects between them are not reason for serious alarm unless one or the other is extremely afflicted in the nativity. In fact, some benefits usually result even with the more difficult aspects.

The two form a beneficial aspect in Anthony's natal chart and are involved in mostly fortunate aspects individually, but the large number of difficult aspects currently showing in the progressions suggest potential reversals. The predominant theme suggested is a tendency for heavier expenditures, extravagance, and loss. The pair might also reflect the declining fortunes of a superior or beneficiary. However, those fortunate natal aspects are good insurance that whatever takes place, it should not cause undue damage.

Relying on these dominant features in the progressed chart, it becomes clear that a look into the current Solar Return and Jupiter Return might reveal more detail, including when problems are apt to arise and in what form. Both charts did indeed contain this information and were in agreement.

The Jupiter Return showed transiting Jupiter approaching an exact square to return (and natal) Jupiter, often a time of loss, waste, or increased expenditures. The square was forming as Jupiter neared the sixth house cusp of the return, with Jupiter both ruling and occupying the return second

house of finances. So, again the job scene and finances appear to be areas of stress. Transiting Jupiter also made a retrograde station at this degree and was within orb to square a natal configuration that fell in the eighth house of the return, another house of resources.

A Solar Eclipse was coming up, which made significant connections in both Anthony's Solar and Jupiter returns. In the Solar Return, it took place in the return sixth house, ruled by the Sun, while forming a square to Pluto on the Midheaven. Pluto on the Midheaven always indicates some status change so the aspect was a significant one in connection with the earlier themes of job and income. In the Jupiter Return, the eclipse occurred in the tenth house while forming a beneficial aspect to return Jupiter in the second house. Still, the stimulation of the eclipse would trigger the current potential involving Jupiter reversals. Still more corroboration was found in the current Lunar Return, with

the eclipse occurring in the second house of finance and nearly conjunct Mercury, retrograde, in the same house. The Lunar Return also closely matched the nativity house cusps, reflecting an important period. With this chart in agreement to the earlier findings, an event surrounding the job, earnings, and status could be expected to arrive within the four-week period.

Anthony belonged to a communications company and was a member of a large union. Every three years a new contract is agreed upon by both the company and the union, so if difficulties arise in the negotiations, a strike by the union members is always a possibility. The eclipse would occur within days of the expiration of the old contract. At that same time, a closer look into Anthony's progressed chart found additional stressful aspects from the progressing Moon, including a square to Pluto, an indication of temporary upset to the normal routine and domestic area.

Some major disagreements were at hand between the company, currently experiencing financial losses, and the union board. Sure enough, negotiations came to a standstill just prior to the expiration of the old contract and a strike ensued. The strike actually preceded the eclipse by a few days, which is often the case when the dynamics of an eclipse are involved.

So, the various charts accurately reflected the event. The strike could very well lead to extended losses, depending on the length of time it lasted. It would affect not only Anthony's income, but his

company benefits as well.

The event affected primarily the second, sixth, and tenth houses as indicated numerous times within the returns. The event was set in motion by the failing fortunes of the company, accurately representing a beneficiary in this case, since it was the source of Anthony's earned income. He was also temporarily unemployed, a change of status as indicated by the square to Pluto in the tenth house of the Solar Return by the eclipse. Further, Anthony might find it difficult to curb his natural spending habits resulting in further reversals.

In order to determine when the strike might be over, several steps are in order. Since the progressed chart shows some rather lengthy trends, other avenues should prove more useful at this point.

We could check Anthony's wife's charts, because obviously whatever affects him affects her as well. In her progressed chart, there are relatively few aspects, though they are important ones. Squares involving primarily the Sun and Mars with the angles corroborates findings in Anthony's chart since in hers they reveal some potential reversals surrounding her husband. Her Solar Return or Mars Return might hold pertinent information should it become necessary. In

those as well as the Lunar Return, attention would be directed to finding relief involving the Sun and Mars.

In Anthony's Solar Return, there is a close conjunction of the Sun and Mars in the second house and Mars is ruler of the second house. At the time the strike went into effect, there was a semi-sextile between transiting Mars and transiting Sun. Any transiting configuration among planets that repeats a link in a return chart shows a time when the return potential is most likely to surface. Even the Jupiter Return showed the Sun and Mars in the same sign and house, though not technically in conjunction. This configuration may be key to learning the answer though and, if so, there should be an aspect between transiting Sun and Mars when the strike ends.

We know that Mars' transit over an eclipsed degree often triggers events pertaining to issues at the onset of an eclipse and that it would sufficiently tie the two bodies. However, since that Mars' transit was several weeks away, it would mean an extended strike and accumulating problems for both the company and the union workers. So far this is a good lead, but a few other possibilities need to be checked and hopefully something can be found to indicate a shorter duration of the strike.

Mercury was retrograde at the time the strike began and, in Anthony's Lunar Return, was conjunct the second house cusp. Since it was a communications company in question and the financial implications for Anthony are suggested by this, house position, Mercury's subsequent

transit over the second house cusp by direct motion could be quite pertinent! It showed that the strike could end when transiting Mercury returned by direct motion to the degree it held at the onset of the strike. In checking this date we also find a Sun-Mars semi-sextile among those transiting bodies indicated in the returns as a significant contact. Further, on the day that Mercury again crossed this degree by direct motion and once more was conjunct the cusp of the second house, the Moon approached the sixth house cusp of the Lunar Return while forming a trine to the second house cusp. In fact, this was the key to the resolve of the contract negotiations, and the strike ended two weeks after it began.

Progressing the Jupiter Return

An additional technique that produces excellent results with the Jupiter Return is progressing the chart. To do this, the Jupiter Return is handled as if it were a natal chart and then progressions are calculated for the time period in question. This method is particularly handy during time periods when transiting Jupiter makes no important aspects. The general

theme of the time period can be found in this progressed chart and it will corroborate events that do occur. It is probably a good idea to keep tabs on the important progressed configurations for reference to the aspects formed by transiting Jupiter. Reading the progressed Jupiter Return employs all of the same simple techniques as outlined in part one, but with one important exception. For the progressed chart to be indicative of an important trend or event, there may only be one or two exact progressed aspects and they will accurately define the trend and event. As always, make special note of the outer transiting planets and the aspects they form to planets within the chart. Event charts will often show that sensitive natal points have become activated within the Jupiter Return.

A Family Calamity and Heavy Losses
To illustrate this technique, I have chosen the Jupiter Return for the friend mentioned in the first chapter, who was under a progressed spell of Neptune's illusions in regard to the men in her life (chart 19). Here, the Jupiter Return is shown in the center wheel, with the progressed Jupiter Return in the middle, and a significant set of transits in the outer wheel. The progressed chart and transits are set for a time period some eleven years following the Jupiter Return, thus just prior to a new Jupiter Return, which would bring a close to that unfortunate era. The situation arising at the point of illustration acted very much as a catalyst to the eventual elimination of the problem. Some background is in order, and although heavy losses were apparent in the chart, a complete assessment of the Jupiter Return will not be done here. This is primarily to focus on timing in regard to the progressed Jupiter Return.

In the Jupiter Return, the Sun rules the chart. Both Saturn and Pluto afflict it. Not only does this point to a general lack of

beneficial influences for the period, but it also suggests that men might be somewhat detrimental due to the Sun's masculine influence and the stressful aspects to it. There may be serious conflicts, power struggles, and manipulative measures as shown by the opposition of Pluto to the Sun. Pluto also opposes Jupiter. Pluto afflicts the two most important planets in the return, suggesting an era of extreme challenge. A conjunction of the Moon and Mars on the seventh house cusp further suggests domestic conflicts arising from a partnership. This verifies a major theme in her progressed chart within the return period, when for a time period of five years, there is a severe affliction involving Mars and Neptune with Mars ruling the seventh house of partners. As a single parent, this aspect warned of illusions and unwise choices in regard to her relationships with men.

The Jupiter Return

In the Jupiter Return, Jupiter rules the forms a square to return Jupiter, also an

CENTER

Jupiter Return

April 6, 1975

Geocentric

Tropical

MIDDLE

Progressed Chart

July 4, 1986

Geocentric

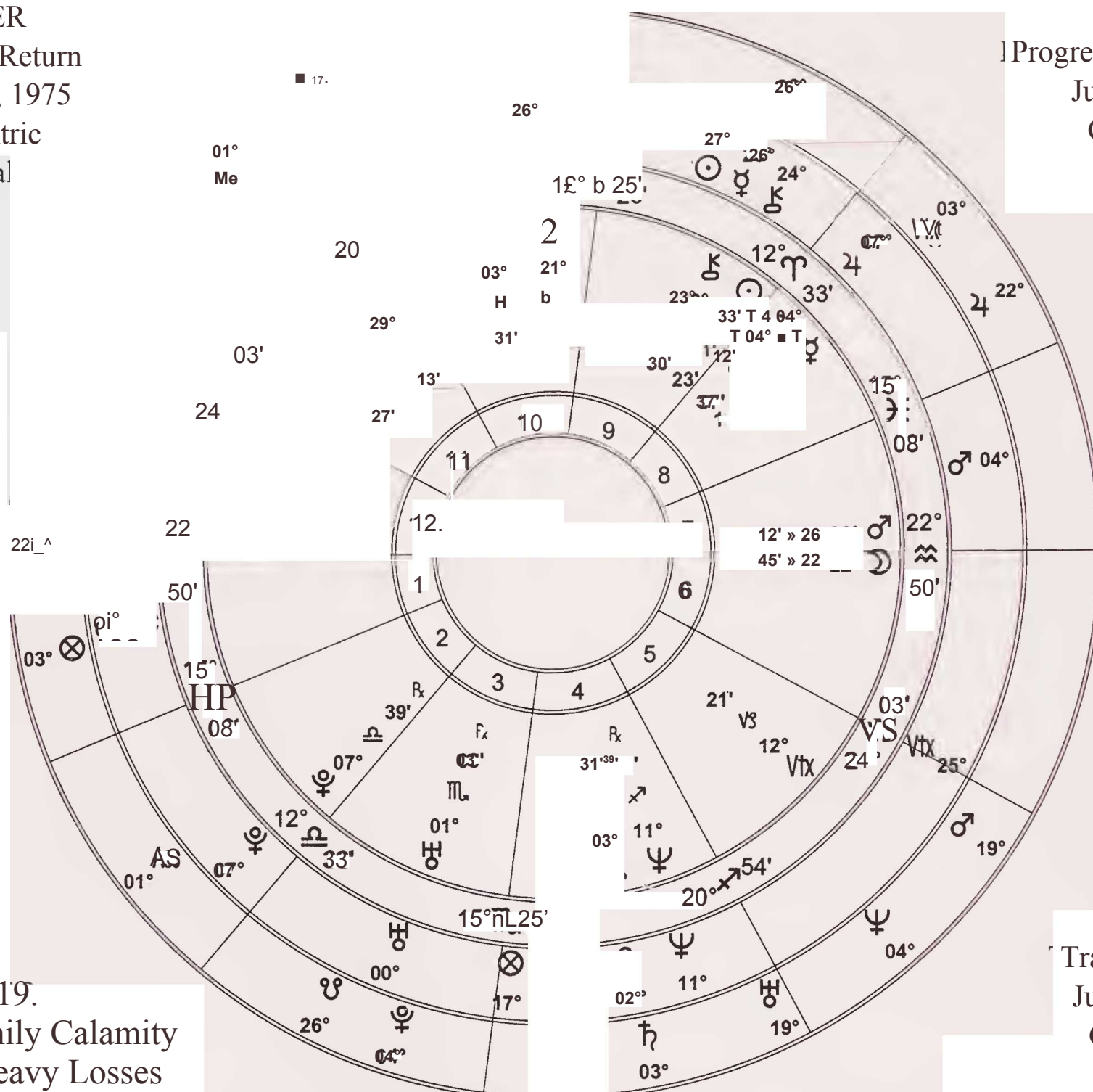


Chart 19.

A Family Calamity
and Heavy Losses

OUTER
Transit Chart

July 4, 1986

Geocentric

Tropic

fifth house, suggesting that efforts to expand center primarily in the urge to create and for enrichment through and for her children. Jupiter's position in the eighth house indicates that important transformations are in order to bring about the necessary expansion, as she perceives it. Unfortunately, the opposition from Pluto to Jupiter repeats a stressful aspect of those two from her natal chart and Saturn also affliction repeated from the natal chart, so the era furnishes an outlet for a great many challenges to manifest. They will also be quite severe, impacting virtually every aspect of her life.

Discovering that she married a man who turned out to be psychologically disturbed to the degree of abusive and cruel acts, my friend was sorry from the moment of the “I do’s.” For one thing, she had an inner gut feeling that something wasn’t right, but Neptune’s illusions can be very powerful. Not only did she prefer to see the legalization of the relationship as promising a stabilized family life for her kids, but when immediate problems surfaced, she was under the illusion that she could help him overcome whatever psychological damage had been done. This is very much demonstrated in the Jupiter Return. She more or less tried to nurture him as she would a child and to transform him with understanding. She met him as Jupiter transited Neptune in the return chart, and she married him when in transit it tied into the T-Square of Jupiter, Saturn, and Pluto.

As time went on, he became increasingly dictatorial, demanding, and abusive. It was a very sad and frightening picture to see them become increasingly fearful of him. Attempts she made to get out of the situation were blocked at every step with threats, abuse, and terrorizing behavior. The very worst effects of Pluto ran rampant in every area of her life.

In the illustration, the progressed Jupiter Return shows the progressing Moon in conjunction with the Jupiter Return Saturn. Here, it also opposes the Vertex, squares the third and ninth house cusps, and is quite sensitive to the pressure

of all the conflicting planets. The unfortunate Moon-Saturn contacts generally form coincident with sorrowful occasions and with these contacts, exceptionally so. The other important contact shown in the progressed Jupiter Return is a square from progressed Mars to progressed Venus. It is exact and reflects a great deal of general disharmony as well as disharmony between the sexes. Progressed Venus is conjunct the South Node of the Jupiter Return, showing difficulties to the point of destruction in regards to love. One’s affections and love nature can be crushed.

The transits for the time in question show the transiting Sun stimulating the unfortunate Moon-Saturn configuration. Transiting Saturn ties into an opposition with progressed Venus-South Node, while in square to progressed Mars. It was at this time that the older son ran away from home to escape the ever-worsening scene in which he had become a focal point of threats and verbal abuse. Always extremely close to her children, this came as a crushing blow even as she well understood the motivation underlying his actions. Just as crushing, she realized that the very things for which she had been striving had produced nothing but chaos and destruction in her life. The precise

timing of the event shows Pluto as the next planet to rise from the earlier chart, reflecting the shattering ramifications.

A year later, under a new Jupiter Return and with a considerable amount of spiritual counseling, she was finally able to get out of the relationship and to begin mending her life, but it took drastic measures. In the process, she lost all of her material possessions that had taken fifteen years to build. As she saw it, she was trading them for her life and for the chance to set things right. Faith and trust had been severely damaged in her relationships with her children who felt betrayed by her. Her pride and selfrespect were gone; her social standing had suffered as well as her reputation. These were the losses that were far more damaging than any material losses and not so easily repaired.

Not by coincidence, it was also at this point that the progressed Mars-Neptune affliction moved beyond the 1-degree orb in her progressed chart and she could once again “see” what was happening.

The Jupiter Return Series

In order to do more with the Jupiter cycle, additional yearly charts can be calculated for Jupiter’s entry to the same degree in each of the signs. To calculate the series, use a point return of Jupiter to its natal degree in each of the signs. If return Jupiter is at 4 Gemini 25, the series would be the charts that result from Jupiter’s entry to this degree in each of the remaining signs.

About a year after the Jupiter Return, Jupiter would reach 4 Cancer 25, and then 4 Leo 25 about a year later, and so on. The configurations resulting from the precise time this personal degree is activated by Jupiter symbolizes the trend for the immediate future.

These charts can be checked to see which house of the initial Jupiter Return is rising. This shows areas that are accentuated for the next year relative to the long-term return period. Important connections between planets in the new chart to those in the initial Jupiter Return provide good information.

Within this series, there will usually be one chart that closely matches the Jupiter Return itself, by rising sign and cusp degrees. It can be identified as a most important year in which one may anticipate the unfolding of significant events that were promised in the Jupiter Return.

Note that if one is using the precessed method for calculating the Jupiter Return, as recommended, the return series should be calculated with respect to the precessed degree of Jupiter for the best results. A discussion on precession is found in chapter 3.

Chapter Ten

THE SATURN RETURN

Symbolism of Saturn

To take advantage of the Saturn Return, one must be lucky enough to be at least twenty-nine years of age. Finally a benefit for the aged! The first return of Saturn closely marks the point at which maturity truly arrives. This is a subdued, yet climactic turning point in life and, if observed closely, it will be found to correspond with a kind of inner stability and self-acceptance at long last. One is now able to view self-attributes in a realistic light: accepting personal limitations, aware of strengths, and ready to work along practical lines.

The Saturn return occurs approximately every twenty-nine years, and is similar to the Jupiter Return in the way it maps important life climaxes. With the Saturn Return, however, it is chiefly Saturn's transit to observe as it makes its way through the return chart. Tabulating these contacts will show turning points and the events transpiring will specifically reflect upon one's character and public reputation. Ruling the urge for self-preservation, the cycle set in motion at Saturn's return shows the foundation on which one will take steps to establish professional credibility and authority. This must be earned

through gaining the respect of the public and it is they who will have final say in the matter. Handling the various reality checks that correspond with Saturn's contacts makes a statement about personal character and on this we are open for public judgment.

This is no small task since Saturn demands that we face reality as it is, not as we would like it to be. It is not always easy to withstand the lessons of Saturn to emerge smelling like a rose in the eyes of the public. Whether or not we pass the tests of Saturn has everything to do with our climb to the top, which is very closely related to our instincts toward self-preservation and avoiding the very thing we fear the most. Whereas Jupiter stood for acceptance based on the following of unspoken, but socially accepted laws, Saturn stands for recorded and manmade laws: those that are upheld by the courts to ensure that justice is served. Obviously, it would be a bit easier to squirm out of Jupiter's errors than any which violate the standards of Saturn. Setting things square after a Saturn error requires patience and hard work. They are not handled overnight and reestablishing credibility once it's been lost is much harder than gaining it in the first place. However, it is never too late to make remedies, and the nature of Saturn encourages the realistic viewpoint that an occasional setback or disappointment is part of life.

The reality checks of Saturn usually have remarkable material connotations, best exemplified in the fact that some of the lowest points in one's health are experienced at the times when Saturn conjuncts, squares, or opposes the natal Sun. The Sun governs the vitality and these Saturn transits put physical vitality to the test. The function of Saturn's transits is to bring to one's attention those areas that need to be strengthened or perfected. Saturn suggests crystallization, so if an element is weak, the likelihood is much greater that it will crumble and break under stress. If the Saturn Return shows frailty involving the ruler of the sixth house, precautions should be taken with one's health long before Saturn enters the sixth house, afflicts the ruler or a figure planet in the sixth. Obviously, health restrictions would invariably affect the ability of an individual to achieve further professional success.

Because the transit of Saturn through the natal chart is so revealing of the cycles one experiences in regard to phases of obscurity, phases of emergence, and phases of climax, the Saturn Return is best utilized by considering also Saturn's transit to natal planets and points. By observing both, fabulous insight and clarity can be instrumental in maintaining better control of evolving circumstances. Keep in mind that Saturn reflects concerns of the tenth house and the slow

progress toward achieving recognition and respect. Its transit through each of the houses corresponds with accumulating precise experience toward this end.

Since the same chart may be utilized for nearly thirty years, it is also suggested to use both the precessed and non-pre-cessed versions of the return. In this way, important contacts to the house cusps may be noted in each of the charts.

Saturn's Hemispheric Position

Most may be familiar with the importance of Saturn's hemispheric position in a chart, but for those who aren't, some elaboration is necessary. Positioned at the top of the chart, natal or return, Saturn would show that a cycle has begun with the individual already holding some degree of authority and an elevated status. This is a wonderful position, though it requires a great deal of responsibility to maintain the respect that has already been awarded. Sometimes this position is inherited from a parent's successful climb to the top. Jesus of Nazareth had this position of Saturn, to give an example.

As Saturn moves from the top sector of the chart down toward the cusp of the first house, one consolidates and builds security from the advancements reaped at the top of the chart. At the Ascendant, one enters an obscure phase and should practice a voluntary withdrawal rather than to push for new advances. This position often

corresponds with depression and setbacks, especially if one has not prepared properly to go into a semiretirement phase.

As Saturn approaches the cusp of the fourth house, one generally experiences the lowest point of any worldly authoritative command. Here, one is in the midst of personal concerns, and will not be up to taking on greater responsibilities until command is gained over this most fundamental area. However, this important transit across the fourth house cusp initializes an upward climb. Progress and development begin and contact with the seventh house cusp marks the point of opportunity to gain the support of others toward one's goals. Certain climax is noted when Saturn reaches this cusp. If a good score has been accumulated up to this point through abiding by the material rules of the world, the public is generally more than willing to be of assistance as one presses onward toward more worldly success. If not, adjustments will be required at this point. As Saturn moves onward toward the Midheaven, the career develops toward exposure and climax. One has excellent opportunities for gaining recognition and there is often a rise in public status, depending on how wisely one has utilized the resources of previous experience.

Saturn spends approximately two- and-one-half years in a sign or house, or seven years in each of the four sectors of the chart. Each of the sectors represents a partial cycle of experience. Saturn's position at the start of the return indicates the phase one is in upon entering the new experiential cycle and the overall chart shows the new set of environmental factors from which to work.

Interpreting the Saturn Return

Initially, the return chart should be examined for features just as if it were a natal chart. The only difference is the time period for which it will be in effect. The overall chart configurations relate to one's urge toward professional security and developments along such lines over the course of the next several years. Tight configurations and their meanings should be noted as well as sign and house prominence. The overall pattern of the chart should be studied. The ruler of the return Ascendant is of primary concern as well as the most elevated planet in the chart, whether east or west of the Midheaven. It is not more important than a planet close to an angle but if there is no great emphasis to another planet the most elevated may be given precedence. A planet in the return that aspects both the Sun and the Moon is of special import, showing a response of that planet on two significant levels: the

instinctive or personal level, as well as an essential and individual level. Hemispheric and elemental prominence should also be considered.

The rising sign of the return provides an excellent indication of the nature of enterprise one will pursue in the attempt to achieve recognition, status, and advancement. It also indicates the people with whom business connections may be formed and gives clues as to the assistance to be received by the aspects to the ruler. If the ruler is Gemini and Mercury makes no aspects, it is provided great freedom to function and takes on the attributes of the sign occupied. Directing the intellect and conscious thought toward the things and people represented by the sign will occur naturally. Activities along this line will undoubtedly be paramount in the degree of success attained. In this example, with Gemini, some form of communication is indicated. If Gemini further ruled the ninth house of the natal chart, communication may be along the lines of publishing or marketing. Furthermore, such a combination might indicate that a long-distance move could assist or detract from the major purpose. If the rising sign's ruler forms fortunate aspects to both the return planets and natal planets, an assessment of the sign's association shows activities to pursue in

earnest and with good chance of success. If afflicted, delays and challenges will be encountered as signified by the afflicting planets. Hard effort, patience, and cautionary measures will need to be applied in dealing with these people and matters.

In judging the Ascendant or any of the houses, the fixed signs bring qualities of stability or permanence, mutable signs show fluctuations or a preparatory stage, and cardinal signs indicate personal action. Blending the elements reveals a self-initiated activity if a fire sign; practical concerns if an earth sign; intellectual interests if an air sign; and psychological issues if a water sign. Further consideration of the particular sign will bring even greater definition to the rising sign as well as to each of the individual houses and the affairs they govern. If Aries were rising, one would know that it is time for personal action and initiative. A new enterprise is likely. The time period should be quite dynamic and the position and aspects of Mars is very important in determining the challenges, assistance, and outcome of such projects.

The signs on the angles will normally be most indicative of the coming trend unless there is a heavily occupied sign or house in which case the sign characteristics and/or issues pertaining to the emphasized house must also be accounted for.

The natal house that is brought to the Ascendant position of the return is also an important indicator and should also be a preliminary consideration. Since the

Ascendant is an area of energy manifestation, conditions and environment will provide an ideal outlet for events and issues associated with this natal house. The people, issues, and affairs of that house will occupy the attention to some extent.

The houses ruled and occupied by return Saturn are quite significant. The house occupied shows where one is ambitious, where recognition is sought, and in what areas one wishes to be regarded as an authority. It also shows where there is a fear of failure and to where one directs disciplinary measures. The house ruled shows affairs that can greatly contribute to one's upward progress in these matters and also reflects extreme sensitivity to shortcomings and restrictions. Aspects to return Saturn further define assistance and challenge. The stressful aspects denote personal deficiencies or tendencies that may hinder the ambitions. Personal attributes lending efficiency toward reaching goals are shown by the beneficial aspects. Assistance or challenge is found also through those people ruled by the planets in aspect. It is beneficial to have Saturn well linked to the chart ruler since this has some bearing on one's physical vitality and personality attributes. To have it in fortunate aspect to the ruler of the house

in which it falls also lends great support to the ambitions.

In return charts the house polarity factor must also be considered since opposing houses represent two different poles of the same principle. While the house occupied by Saturn is most revealing, the people and affairs governed under the opposite house will also be relevant.

To add more substance to a simple interpretation of the house occupied as well as the subsequent transits of Saturn, a few other guidelines are valuable. Pivotal circumstances and the deepest personal affairs correspond with the angular houses: one, four, seven, and ten. These correspond with turning points and increased activity as conditions are changing and things are happening. Succedent houses—two, five, eight, and eleven—can be counted on to represent issues involving resources and/or personal values. In addition, they usually represent conclusions, finalities, and the opportunity for stabilization. The cadent houses show stages of transition, fluctuation, and preparation. These are the third, sixth, ninth, and twelfth houses. While it is a somewhat obscure area of the chart, preparations made at this latter stage promote personal growth and are crucial to later developments and long-range achievements. Steps taken by an individual with the cadent positions often remain in the background and do not reach full maturity until a later stage in their development.

To further define the houses, consider the triplicities. The first, fifth, and ninth houses may be considered the creative houses. They correspond with the enthusiastic fire signs and are conducive to progress stemming from the creative nature. The second, sixth, and tenth are the material houses, relating to the practical earth signs. They show efforts to increase professional security through concentrating on these fundamental areas of earnings. The third, seventh, and eleventh are relational houses and correspond with the intellectual airy signs. They indicate an accent on the forming of associations and partnerships as the foundation and stimulus to raising the status. The fourth, eighth, and twelfth houses reflect upon subconscious urges and correspond with the emotional water signs. These are occult houses where inner growth and self-understanding are most conducive to outer progress.

If the return chart shows Saturn on an angle, tightly configured, or in conjunction with several other planets, it will be quite an eventful period for Saturn-ruled affairs. If Saturn is in an angular house, the first one-third of the return period will be emphasized in regard to events and progress associated with Saturn. If in a succedent house, it will be the middle portion of the return period that shows a

marked increase in these activities, and the latter portion of the period will be accentuated if Saturn falls in a cadent house. While the house position of Saturn alone is generally sufficient for tabulating the most active time period, look also at the overall chart for any heavy concentration of planets in one of these three sectors.

The planet(s) forming the closest conjunction(s) with any of the four angles of the chart should be given precedence in reading the chart. Of these, the first and tenth house cusps are more prominent positions than the fourth and seventh unless there are additional factors to consider. The angles of the chart are precise points of energy manifestation, so events linked to the nature of the planet are given a superb outlet. These angular planets and their aspects reveal major themes for the period. The natal condition and integration of such a planet are very important to ascertain the probable effects. Not only are the themes associated with the planet paramount for the ensuing period, but the planet further indicates the essence of outpouring energy, the angle tells where it will manifest, and the sign shows how it will manifest and to what purpose.

As with any return, the natal planets should be inserted onto the wheel to find any important ties to return planets or return house cusps. They will have their own influence when combined with the return configurations and can be used later to extract the particular flavoring of Saturn's transits through the return. Natal planets arriving on an angle of the return

are also provided an ideal environment to manifest their natal potential and are just as important on an angle as a return planet.

A return period that shows Saturn resuming contact with several planets with which it was in natal aspect is of considerable importance and a number of memorable events will occur. Conditions and circumstances that arise during this return period provide an opportunity for all that natal potential to be utilized. The type of link is not as important as the fact that a connection has been reestablished.

Some elaboration is necessary here. Always bear in mind the radical relationship of Saturn to another planet when interpreting the significance of an aspect in the return. The natal aspect should always be given leeway in determining the potential of a later aspect between two planets. If, for example, Saturn is in square in the return chart to a planet that it was in natal opposition, the potential for stressful circumstances is greater than if they formed a trine in the nativity or no aspect at all. The same square in the return is still quite significant in the case of a natal trine, but whatever circumstances arise can be worked out more

easily to one's credit and benefit. Conversely, a return trine from Saturn to a planet in which it was in natal square represents an opportunity to work through some of the stress indicated by the original aspect. While stress may still manifest, the individual should do all possible to direct efforts toward a propitious outcome. This promotes a healthier integration of the planetary element, steadies the elemental energy, and leads to a matured handling of challenges. If Saturn repeats a promising aspect found in the natal chart, it may be a time when special opportunities seem to fall in one's lap.

These guidelines can be carried to the judgment of the Saturn Return itself. Planets that Saturn is in stressful aspect with at the onset of the return are the most likely to produce stress when Saturn forms aspects to them in its transit through the return chart. Of course, if there was a beneficial aspect between the two in the radical chart, the stress produced should bring a favorable result. Every contact that transiting Saturn makes as it circles the return will show activity relating to that planet, but contact to a planet in which it was in return aspect will usually prove to hold greater significance. Aspects it forms to natal planets should also be noted, especially if tied to a return planet by conjunction or lying on one of the angles of the return.

Further Definition of the Return

The houses of the Saturn Return in which natal planets fall also reveal important details about the ensuing time period. If a return planet falls on a natal planet, then significant events relating to the house occupied by the pair will find them working together, either in harmony or discord. This is determined chiefly by the natures of the

planets, their natal relationship, and by the aspects made to them in the return.

Further assessment provides even greater detail. For example, if a planet in the return is within a degree of aspect to any house cusp, it represents either a line of assistance or challenge in regard to the affairs of that house. The nature of the planet along with the type of aspect determines this influence. Say that a planet forms an exact square to the return second and eighth house cusps. This shows potential reversals in the area of finance and resource through the manner of expression of that planet and through those people and issues naturally governed by the planet. Caution should be applied in matters ruled by such a planet, especially at times it is stimulated by Saturn's transit. The return house ruled by such a planet is also revealing. A planet falling on any house cusp will have much to "say" about the affairs of that house for the upcoming time period.

This might be either a natal or return planet and a similar handling is indicated, depending on all pertinent factors surrounding such a planet. These planetary connections to cusps are quite pertinent features.

There is always a significant connection between a house of the return and its corresponding natal house. For instance, the area of the natal chart that is found occupying the twelfth house of the return is an area that is temporarily secluded. There is an element of mystery here, a secret, or a missing piece of data. If it is the natal fourth house lying within the boundaries of the twelfth house of the return, one may need to refrain from disclosing a family matter or there might be a skeleton in the closet. If it were the natal fifth, a child or lover could be in trouble, keeping a secret or misleading others. Each of the houses of the return can be evaluated using this method. When planets, especially Saturn transit this return house, the affairs of the corresponding natal house will go through a period of uncertainty as signified by this twelfth-house position.

Wherever Gemini is found in the return indicates an area of duplicity or multiplicity. If found on the second house cusp, there may be income from two sources; if on the seventh, two experts may need to be consulted; if on the sixth, one may hold two jobs, have extra work coming in, and be spread exceptionally thin to meet

service obligations. If on the first, one may simply be scattered and effort is required to see things through to a completion due to preoccupation. The same treatment can be given each house according to the nature of a sign.

If one of the Moon's nodes falls in conjunction with a return or natal planet, those planetary energies will manifest quite dynamically and associated issues will be emphasized during the return period. A conjunction of a planet with the North Node indicates a quality to be consciously developed while a South Node conjunction indicates a quality that is already part of the nature and requires little effort to make use of. Again, these nodal conjunctions are valid whether involving a natal or a return planet. The North Node falling on the return Ascendant provides many benefits for the period. One is easily able to lead, set the pace, and personal timing is excellent for gaining the support and cooperation of others. Falling on the cusp of the seventh, one tends to "lean" on another. Chapter 21 discusses the nodal aspects at length, and a table is included of the Lunar node positions through the year 2054.

The first natal planet to rise to the Ascendant of the return chart is often quite informative of the trend to follow in regards to Saturn-ruled affairs, with the Sun, Venus, and Jupiter inclining to favorable times, benefits forthcoming, and

pleasant social affairs. Saturn suggests business dealings, issues involving authorities, or could mean delays involving important matters. Each of the planets will stamp their personal signature to the time period when first to rise. If a planet lies within 5 degrees of the Ascendant, but occupies the twelfth house, it may be considered as the rising planet unless another planet lies closer to the Ascendant. The astrologer should always allow the chart to lead.

Judging Points of Emphasis and Timing Activity

The transits of Saturn across the angles of the chart will generally coincide with some of the most remarkable events of the entire cycle and often time major turning points. Activity begins to accelerate as Saturn approaches the angles, peaks, and then ebbs as it moves away, though Saturn's transits are very slow. One may find a whole different set of circumstances by the end of the transit to an angle. Each of the angular cusps indicates a new phase of experience. It is also wise to anticipate important events at the time Saturn contacts the ruler of the chart, especially by conjunction. Saturn and the outer planets will also stimulate prominent configurations within the return in their transits through the chart.

As Saturn crosses any house cusp of the chart, a natural shift of energy takes place, as an effort to perfect this department of life develops. The houses are interpreted using all of the traditional tools, such as quadrants and hemispheres. Accordingly, the cadent houses represent a time of obscurity as preparations are made for the climactic point in time when Saturn reaches

an angular cusp. The Midheaven represents the most public area of the chart while the fourth house shows the most private concerns as outlined earlier.

As Saturn transits the chart and makes contacts to each of the planets, the contacts will correspond with conditions and circumstances that are directly related to the ability to successfully reach one's goals of authority status. The opposition of Saturn to its place in the return (and natal) chart should produce some remarkable results while the squares indicate opportunities for adjustment. The dates that these contacts are exact (the conjunction and opposition are the most powerful), will usually find one in the very midst of consequential issues. Since Saturn's cycle is nearly thirty years in duration, everyone will undergo major events during the return period.

Because Saturn is retrograde for an extended period each year, there will often be two or three contacts to a particular planet during its slower movement. These transits show issues that are not quickly wrapped up, but call for attention over an extended period of time before they are

finalized. The separate dates on which the contact is exact will coincide with crucial decisions and increased activity regarding the issue at hand.

Another way in which the contacts work out occurs when Saturn is traveling more quickly. To illustrate, a trine aspect to a planet that is ultimately going to produce stress may coincide with the initial surfacing of a problem and the square that follows several years later will see the result. In order to measure the potential of a planet to assist or resist the ambitious urges, one must consider the type of aspect it forms to Saturn in the return chart and to their natal relationship. Obstacles are most likely when Saturn in its transit forms a challenging aspect to a planet that it was in unfavorable aspect in the return chart. A conjunction of Saturn usually, but does not always fall into the category of a stressful aspect and it frequently shows a time when the energies of the two adversely linked planets can be brought into harmony. The times of greatest ease and progress are when Saturn again forms a favorable contact to a planet that it favorably contacted in the return. If it contacts a planet that it was not in aspect to in the return chart, the type of aspect is generally descriptive of the time period and relative to events signified by the planet. These factors can be applied generally, but it is always important to consider the inherent nature of the planet in aspect.

An unusually active time period is found

when Saturn contacts a planet that is on an angle. Since the angle furnishes an outlet for the energies of Saturn, and the planet reflects an already unique set of energies existing at that point, the scope is greatly magnified for important activity to occur. At the same time, the outflow of energy resulting is provided with a distinct and focused direction. The angle, sign, planet, aspects, and house ruled by the planet will give insights to the probable source and type of activity indicated.

If Saturn, in transiting a house, makes few or no aspects, the sign and house will reveal the area and type of activity stimulated, though affairs tend to remain low-key. Don't, however, overlook aspects formed to the Part of Fortune, the nodes of the Moon, or the Vertex, since these can also be quite significant contacts. Generally, the Vertex suggests an element of karma at work, and the Part of Fortune a one-time-only opportunity. The nodes act to greatly stimulate Saturn and often reflect an event of special note.

If the return chart holds several planets in nearly the same degree, though in different signs, it will be a sensitive degree. As Saturn reaches this degree in any of the signs, it will stimulate several planets all at once, thus the dates of these transits will generally correspond with more spectacular events.

Another point of emphasis is noted when Saturn enters the first degree of a cardinal sign. Check to see if any exact aspects are formed at these times, since these positions of Saturn are extremely sensitive. Called the *Aries Point degrees*, these include the 0 degrees of Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn. These degrees, when occupied by a planet, suggest events of magnitude and far-reaching circumstances. There is a worldly involvement in one's personal affairs and those outside the normal circle possess a weighty influence. The most powerful aspect among these would be a conjunction, square, or opposition from transiting Saturn to another planet or point in the return that lies in one of the Aries Point degrees. One is fairly guaranteed of some important notice at this time and/or affairs have worldly connotations. Outside assistance may be required or a professional expert consulted. One thing is sure, whatever takes place will have a great impact and the event will be instilled in one's memory. Tabulate the exact dates that transiting Saturn makes beneficial aspects to a planet in one of these points, since this provides an excellent opportunity in regard to timing, or to be in the right place at the right time.

Upcoming eclipses should be noted in case they stimulate an important configuration or point in the return chart. They are quite powerful even when occurring on a house cusp. A chapter devoted to

eclipse phenomenon and a table of eclipses through the year 2050 is found in my book, *Predicting Events with Astrology*.

Saturn's Transiting Aspects

Saturn's transit through each of the return houses brings the opportunity to take responsibility, to perfect and gain mastery over the area. Contacts to each of the planets will bring an emphasis to those people and things represented by the planet. The nature of Saturn, with its tendency toward restriction will be found to operate at any type of contact so that even with the best of aspects, although progress is apparent, there is also an inclination toward sober intention and serious application to the tasks at hand.

The following may be applied to Saturn aspects in the return as well as to later transiting aspects formed by Saturn to the return planets or natal planets.

When Saturn contacts the Sun, important career climaxes evolve. These aspects stimulate the ambitions and one's powers of self-reliance. A previous dedication to duty as it relates to both self and others frequently results in the opportunity to take on an elevated position of responsibility at this time. Longterm associations or enterprise may be entered upon and there is a general

accent on business. Opportunities may also arise from associations with those of extensive experience in the area relating to one's personal goals. With difficult aspects it is a time of testing and one is forced to face hardships and make sacrifices. Patience is required as these events are designed to steady and strengthen ability and efficiency. More responsibility is taken, based upon a realistic view of capabilities and a utilization of previously accumulated experience. Inadequacies must be faced squarely and solemnly. Sometimes a fall from power, based upon excessive ambition or a force of circumstances, is seen here. Contacts to the Sun also reflect turning points involving benefactors among authorities. Health or other problems may arise that involve superiors or authorities. Other features in the chart will corroborate such potential.

Contacts to the Moon often center on domestic affairs and family. With the beneficial aspects, the domestic sphere frequently takes a turn for the better, with improved conditions providing much happiness. The issues arising at this time affect one at a deep emotional level and often center on domestic affairs and family. Difficulties are apt to arise involving one's mother if the aspects are stressful. For a man, this includes his wife as well. They may experience poor health or sorrowful times themselves or they may be a source of limitations.

Saturn's contacts to Mercury reflect a preoccupation with the serious side of life. Opportunities come through activities connected with writing, education, or transport. With beneficial aspects there is an ability to communicate on deep subject matters and to see the significance in details. Expanded knowledge comes through an increased capacity to concentrate for long intervals. Saturn-

Mercury contacts denote a period in which much progress and personal development may be found through the practice of meditation. Obstacles may be encountered through excessive worry or the tendency toward a pessimistic and depressed frame of mind. This period may coincide with a child or relative's illness.

Saturn with Venus reflects the ability or need for control of the emotions, and corresponds with stable and reliable connections, often with those of mature age, which may result in financial opportunities. Associations formed are apt to be long enduring. Saturn-Venus contacts sometimes coincide with emotional disappointments or frustrations, and a depressing nature as a result. At other times, the stressful contacts may indicate coldness toward the feelings of others, though the individual is more apt to feel that others are emotionally distant. If these aspects are good, this usually reflects a fortunate time for elders, the father, and other authority figures. With

poor aspects, the reverse is true, and one's own health could suffer. Important developments might also take place with regard to a daughter with the aspects of Saturn to Venus.

The aspect of Saturn to Mars in the return may be among one of the most noteworthy. This aspect suggests the ability to build credibility and achieve worldly success while also gaining a sense of personal fulfillment. In the positive aspects, it stimulates the ambitions and staying power where opportunities for realizing goals come through determined effort and constructive application. In the less fortunate aspects, it is a time of testing for one's willpower and may correspond with hard or even dangerous work. Health problems result from inner tension and strain, often in the form of falls, bruises, or broken bones. May correspond with illness of the father or son.

In a discussion about Adolph Hitler in *Astrology for the Millions*, Grant Lewi suggests that a conflicting aspect between these two deny an individual the opportunity to make an accepted and lasting contribution. Whatever is built will eventually crumble or reflect poorly upon the individual. When the urge for self-preservation, governed by Saturn, is in discord with the aggressive urges, signified by Mars, failure is the common result. Actions taken work at cross-purposes to the preservation instincts. The author gives a complete and detailed discussion of Saturn, enlightening as reference material. In

applying the nucleus of this concept to the return chart, a square or opposition between Saturn and Mars suggests a proclivity for reversals in status, and toward delays or obstacles to claiming achievement. The times to be alert for misdirected aggression and resulting setbacks are when Saturn contacts the configuration in its transit. Even if Saturn and Mars are in easy aspect or no aspect in the return chart, the hard contacts of transiting Saturn to return Mars often correspond with a remarkable tendency toward selfdestructive actions. The reverse transit of Mars to Saturn is similar, though these are generally not as destructive unless occurring with additional stress present.

Saturn's contacts to Jupiter test one's power of judgment. Opportunities abound for increasing wisdom and utilizing the organizational faculties. Advancement in one's financial condition may come through favorable associations with those in business or the practice of good business sense. Accepting greater responsibility and a more mature sense of integrity are often in evidence with the fortunate aspects. A refusal to accept responsibility or bad timing sometimes coincides with adverse aspects. With these, the potential for financial reversal due to unwise speculation or investment is often noted.

Saturn's aspects to its own position correspond with important developments in achieving recognition and authority. The opposition inclines to the result of the efforts put forth for the preceding fourteen years. The squares represent opportunities for adjustment, the first in regard to proceeding forward and the last in reflection. This cycle is similar to that of the Sun as described in chapter 4. Of course, Saturn's cycle is more profound and permanent, and delineates hard work and efforts applied over a large portion of the lifetime.

Saturn to Uranus stimulates the organizational abilities and often tests the capacity to fit in with those who champion conservative action or methods. Opportunities come through associations with those who stimulate bright ideas and inventive aptitudes. Adverse aspects frequently correspond with an unsettled and trying time. If Saturn is stronger, one is inclined to miss opportunities through excessive caution, while if Uranus is stronger, one is inclined to be unable to gain support as a result of a too-rebellious nature.

Saturn's aspects to Neptune stimulate the desire to unite the idealistic nature with the accomplishment of practical or conservative tasks. Devotion to duty and inspiration brings exceptional satisfaction to even the most mundane jobs. The aspect sometimes corresponds with the development of psychic faculties, and may also reflect the

association with an older person or the introduction to a new school of thought that will have an impact upon personal aims and ideals. Even in the better aspects, the combination inclines to an involvement in complicated matters that wears on the physical and psychological energies. One is bound to unravel and solve life's mysteries. Much depends on which planet is stronger in determining whether the Neptune impulse of idealism is overruled by Saturn's nature to ignore anything that is not down-to-earth or whether Saturn's practical side is overpowered by the urge to be swept up and away.

Saturn with Pluto stimulates perseverance and persistence in accomplishing personal ambitions. Great strength and fortitude are available toward practical ends with fortunate aspects. Advancement may come about through disciplined effort, patience, and the ability to persevere in the face of adversity. A tendency toward self-denial may result in relentlessly controlling one's own emotional nature, and this tendency extends to include one's expectations of others. Harsh behavior may invite retaliation from others with the adverse aspects. Setbacks arising with any of the problematic aspects may be due to involvement in extremely complicated affairs. These aspects may affect health through the bony structure and teeth or through strange illnesses that have been developing over a length of time.

The affairs of the house ruled by a planet are also highlighted when stimulated by Saturn, and situations evolving will have a bearing on personal recognition and status. The way in which the natal planets fall into the return chart offer detail to the probable issues that will arise when they receive stimulation from Saturn. Important links formed between the natal and return planets should also be noted since they reveal major points of emphasis at Saturn's contacts.

The Saturn Return at Work

A Rise to Prominence

In this illustration, Evangeline Adams' Saturn Return is found in the center wheel, with natal planets in the middle, and transits for March 16, 1899, in the outer wheel (chart 20). The Saturn Return is precessed and relocated to New York City since most of the events described take place following her relocation from Boston. We will only take a look at a couple of climactic points as they are reflected in the return but will find the connection to those from the most highlighted points in the Saturn Return.

Briefly, the Saturn Return shows an emphasis in the first house of self-initiated activity. Scorpio rising arouses intense desires and a need for transformation at the core. It shows the need and time for change, and suggests that stability or permanent improvements can be the result

of self-initiated change and dedicated purpose. Pluto rules the Ascendant and is found on the eighth house cusp. This is exemplary in leading more deeply into a Plutonian theme and we see also that natal Pluto is the most angular planet, on the seventh house cusp.

Transformations will be focused on other people and the values they embrace. With return Pluto in Gemini, their values could be changed through communications: writing, the media, and getting her ideas across.

Venus disposes of natal Pluto and, in the return, rules the seventh house where natal Pluto resides. Natal Venus was quite prominent, angular on the first house cusp, and Venus holds the same position on the return chart. This tells that other people can be of great personal assistance. They are likely to be stable and/or wealthy individuals, and as Sagittarius shows, they may reside abroad or some distance away or may be found through promotion, marketing, or the publishing industry. As the planet of happiness, natal Venus in Pisces showed that contentment for her would be connected to her dreams and inspirations. Similar themes are now shown in return Neptune in the fifth house. Neptune shows inspiration in her creative urges to produce a product that would endure. With Neptune, boundaries are erased.

The Saturn Return

Here in the first house, Uranus and to publishing, marketing, and promotion,

CENTER
Saturn Return
December 10, 1897
Geocentric
Tropical

MIDDLE
Evangeline Adams
February 8, 1868
Geocentric

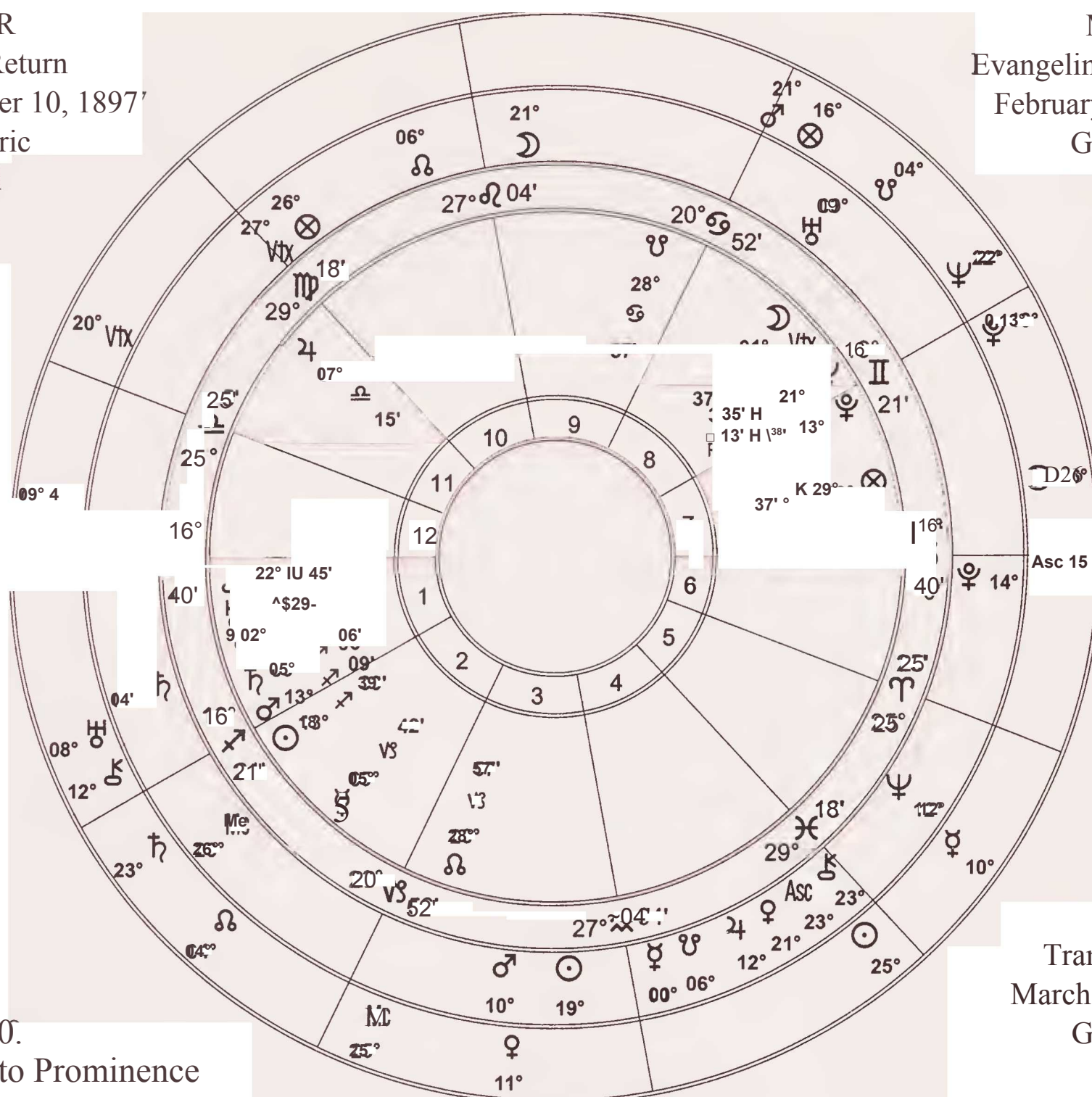


Chart 20.
A Rise to Prominence

Saturn with Venus, all in Sagittarius, validate the previous theme of publishing. The way she feels about herself and her basic securities will see wonderful progress, shown by the natal Venus in the return chart fourth alongside Jupiter.

Pluto is in trine to Jupiter. Jupiter, as the most elevated planet, is mostly involved in easy aspects. It also governs areas relating

and with this position indicates many benefits coming to her from those of honorable position. The signs of Sagittarius and Gemini are prominent in the Saturn Return, so again there are suggestions of publishing, promotion, long-distance travel, writing, and so on.

Pluto opposes Mars from the eighth house cusp and widely opposes Saturn. The aspects formed to her natal planets, however, are altogether favorable and show her outstanding use of these countering vibrations. Return Pluto flows easily to natal Mars, the Sun, Neptune, and Pluto, indicating that the most stressful of situations could be turned to her benefit.

The details surrounding important events during the return period will be seen to involve this Pluto-Mars opposition and the myriad of aspects to the natal planets. Pluto on the seventh house cusp shows the impact she would have on others. This area does undergo a great transformation during this return period and Evangeline became the counseling astrologer to thousands, some of them among the most influential personages of the time. She would raise the consciousness of many. In the beginning, many of her clients came to her incognito but this changed over time. In 1914 she brought astrology to a proper level of dignity by getting it legalized.

About a year-and-a-half after the onset of this Saturn Return, Ms. Adams made her move to New York City from Boston. The square from Jupiter to the Moon in the return accurately reflected the separation from family members. The time she chose for the move was in accordance with what she saw arriving in her own horoscope.¹ It was, according to her, a most fortunate time for her professionally. At the exact time of

her move, transiting Pluto had retrograded to occupy the same position that it held in the Saturn Return, opposing Mars. Of course, when she arrived in New York, her first encounter proved quite difficult since it was with a hotel proprietor who was dead set against astrology and even though he was a family friend he would not allow the practice of it in his hotel. Determinedly, Evangeline journeyed on with suitcase in hand until she found quite the reverse situation and made the acquaintance of a hotel proprietor who was a huge fan of astrology, insisting on a personal reading then and there. She saw terrible misfortune overtaking him at once and narrowed down the probabilities to a fire and the death of loved ones. That very night, with Evangeline a guest in the Windsor Hotel, it burned to the ground, killing several of his family members. Evangeline escaped injury and it was this accurate prediction that brought her overnight fame. At the time, Saturn was making a trine to the Saturn Return Midheaven while nearing a conjunction to the natal Midheaven.

During this same Saturn Return several years later, when transiting Saturn made its conjunction to return Pluto and opposed Mars and Saturn, Ms. Adams was involved with the legalization of astrology in the State of New York. After

being taken to court numerous times, she finally asked to be put to the test by doing a chart reading before the judge. Without her knowledge, the judge gave her the birth data for his own son. Based on her reading, he deemed astrology a respectable and scientific practice. Again, she triumphed, and so had “her” astrology, as she always referred to it.

This had been the point of transition and the public view of astrology then became more accepting. Many years later, as transiting Saturn crossed the Ascendant of the return chart, her first book was published and became a popular hit, with several printings over a short period of time.

Soon after marked the point of a new Saturn Return in which Saturn held a tenth-house position, indicating that she was very much respected in her line of work and considered quite the authority. In this return, the degree on the Midheaven coincided with the exact degree that Saturn had held when her first book was published. Following this return and for the next several years, Ms. Adams continued publishing books while also counseling clients. As transiting Saturn approached the Saturn Return Ascendant, Ms. Adams died at the time transiting Pluto opposed her twelfth-house Saturn Return Sun.

It is worth commenting that in the Saturn Return illustrated for Evangeline, Chiron is rising in the chart and trine her natal Chiron. Natal Chiron lies near the fifth house cusp of the return, giving the combined configurations some dignity. The specific house cusps indicate self and children. Relating to the wounded healer archetype, it was during these years that Ms. Adams would have experienced the

pangs of suffering over her inability to have children of her own. In order to heal the wound, and to burn off the negative effects it could create, she dedicated herself to becoming the healing counselor and nurturer for many as her first astrology teacher, Dr. J. Heber Smith, advised her years earlier. This is almost a word-for-word recital of something Dr. Smith told her. After explaining to her that she would remain childless, he said it was better that she “rock the cradle of the world than the cradle of one child.”

Progressing the Saturn Return

An additional technique that produces excellent results with the Saturn Return is progressing the chart. To do this, the Saturn Return is handled as if it were a natal chart and then progressions are calculated for the time period in question. This method is particularly handy during time periods when transiting Saturn makes no important aspects. The general theme of the time period can be found in this progressed chart and it will corroborate events that do occur. It is probably a

good idea to keep tabs on the important progressed configurations for reference to the aspects formed by transiting Saturn. Reading the progressed Saturn Return employs all of the same simple techniques as outlined in part one, but with one important exception. For this progressed chart to be indicative of the life trend at the moment there may only be one or two exact progressed aspects, which accurately defines trend and events. As always, make special note of the outer transiting planets and the aspects they form to planets within the chart.

The Saturn Return Series

In order to do more with the Saturn cycle, additional charts can be calculated for Saturn's entry to the same degree in each of the signs. If Saturn is at 4 Aries 22 in the natal chart, then its return to this point is used to calculate the Saturn return. Thereafter, charts would be calculated for the time that Saturn reaches 4 Taurus 22, then 4 Gemini 22, and so on through the signs. Each of these subsequent charts will

fall at intervals of about every two-and-one-half years. Watch for connections formed between the planets and points in this chart to the Saturn Return chart.

Note that if one is using the precessed method for calculating the Saturn Return, the remaining series of charts should also have this precession factor accounted for, with attention to the precessed degree of Saturn. A discussion on precession is found in chapter 3.

The Saturn Return can also be used in corroboration with other return charts as demonstrated in the previous chapter. For a long-term return cycle, such as Saturn's, progressing the return would be the more highly recommended method for finding the current theme than the point of degree entry series, though both could be used.

Note

1. Ms. Adams' natal and progressed charts are illustrated and delineated in *Predicting Events with Astrology* to show the configurations she had seen coming for the time period.

Part Three

THE TRANSITING PLANETS AND ASPECTS

Chapter Eleven

BRIDGING THE OLD WITH THE NEW

For those who have had their fill of stale cookbook descriptions of the transits, the material in this section will come as a welcome reprieve and delightful reading. It is the documented findings of the transits by Dr. J. Heber Smith, first astrology teacher to Ms. Evangeline Adams.

A descendent of two United States presidents, Ms. Adams became one of the most highly regarded American astrologers of her time. She gained overnight fame when she accurately predicted the New York City Windsor Hotel fire of Saint Patrick's Day, 1899. Only a few hours earlier, just after arriving in the city, she had done a reading of the hotel proprietor's chart where she herself was staying and saw immediate tragedy descending upon him. Her accurate prediction of the disaster led to her long years of success as one of the few practicing astrologers of her time.

In her own book, *The Bowl of Heaven*[^] Evangeline superbly details these and many of the events that shaped her life.

Consulting her own chart, Evangeline had made the discovery that mid-March of 1899 would be a particularly

fortunate time to move to New York and set up her astrology practice there. That she became an overnight sensation as soon as she arrived in New York is proof of her infallible ability to produce accurate predictions. Her motto was “The wise man cooperates with his stars. The fool thinks he rules them.”² Her chart is illustrated and delineated in *Predicting Events with Astrology* to show the configurations she had seen coming for that time period.

It had been several years earlier that she’d been fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of Dr. J. Heber Smith, who used astrology in connection with his work as a medical professor. The meeting came about as a result of Evangeline’s prolonged ill health and the timely decision of her regular physician to arrange a meeting between her and Dr. Smith when he noticed that Evangeline had some “unusual ideas.”

The first thing Dr. Smith did was to ask Evangeline for the date, time, and place of her birth. She watched as he drew up her horoscope, placing symbols around it. Within a few moments he asked her if she had not broken her leg when she was nine. She was so surprised that she replied that she had indeed broken her leg, but she couldn’t recall how old she was when it happened. She found out later from her mother that she had turned nine the month following her broken leg.

This and other things told to her by Dr. Smith captivated Evangeline. Dr. Smith

corrected Evangeline on the time of birth she had given him. He told her bluntly that if the time she gave him were accurate, she would have been very beautiful. He gave her a birth time, corrected by an hour and a half, which she later learned to be correct! He told Evangeline that when he came before Saint Peter, he would tell him not to hold it against her that she would have no children of her own. He said he would tell Saint Peter that she would be better able to rock the cradle of the world than the cradle of one child.

Along with numerous other facts he also told her about the future, all of which transpired. He told her that she was a born astrologer and should study the science. Dr. Smith convinced Evangeline that she should study astrology and she in turn convinced him to teach it to her. In the years that followed, Dr. Smith taught Evangeline all he knew as he continued his own research. When he died he left Evangeline his manuscripts with his discoveries, along with his own prediction that she would become a very highly regarded astrologer.

It is estimated that Evangeline gave astrological advice to over 100,000 people from her studio at Carnegie Hall, many of the rich and famous among them. Evangeline also singlehandedly

brought about the legalization of astrology in the State of New York in 1914. Before that, it had been classified as “fortunetelling,” an illegal practice. By 1930, her charge for a one-half-hour personal consultation was \$50. She attributes much of her success to the teachings of Dr. Smith.

Dr. Smith never had his material published and it is presented here without any editing whatsoever. The idioms used in the late nineteenth century are intact and the writing style is both entertaining and inimitable. As the story goes, Mrs. Julie Pontin, rival of Evangeline Adams, paid \$150 for a typewritten copy of this material.

Out of the many astrology references I have come across, this material proved to be the single most valuable reference for comprehending the dynamics of a transiting planet or the dynamics behind a progressed aspect. It is my hope that other students will find it just as helpful. Smith constantly refers to the progressions that come in combination with the transits. He used both heliocentric and geocentric charts and watched progressions and transits in both. In doing so, the notes he left for Evangeline are superb in the way they define the nature of a planet or aspect, whether transiting or progressed. In fact, these notes on the transits can easily be applied to progressed aspects. Dr. Smith also expounds on the importance of combinations among the transiting and progressed aspects. He admittedly exaggerates the workings of a planet, but in a way that leaves one clear on the nature of a planet and the influence it has.

Using terms such as “evil transits,” he does not mince matters when it comes to talking about a nasty transit, and some observations will leave you laughing. He defines very well the traditional roles of the planets and of their particular malefic or benefic influence—for accurate predictions, there lies the key. We may have started to dress up the aspects too soon in a reading. First, find the prominent theme using traditional concepts, and then utilize an expanded awareness of how the planets and aspects reflect spiritual needs to stay abreast of the current wind of life we are riding. I hope that newer students of astrology will find that old concepts have their value, and that by using them together with the new, we could have an outstanding era of astrological advancement that will enrich the whole planet. That said, I hope these century-old notes will be of value in this, the new millennium.

Thanks are in order to the American Federation of Astrologers for the safekeeping of this material over these many years.

Since Pluto had not yet been discovered during the time of Dr. Smith, a chapter covering its transits and aspects

follow the work presented here by Dr. Smith. A final chapter on the transits of the Moon's nodes is followed by a table of the nodal positions from the years 1935 through 2054.

Notes

1. Evangeline Adams, *The Bowl of Heaven* (1926; reprint, Santa Fe, NM: Sun Books Publishing, 1995).
2. Evangeline Adams, *Evangeline Adams' Own Book of Astrology* (New York: Tower Books, 1931).

Chapter Twelve

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET MERCURY

The transits of Mercury are not over-important unless Mercury happens to become retrograde or stationary in important places, and yet the effects are quite marked, and when Mercury adds his influence to that of the other planets he greatly intensifies their effects. The transits of Mercury, in accord with the law that the transits of the minor planets over the major are identical in quality with the transits of the major over the minor, although differing in degree and duration to the various planets, will affect, chiefly, the mind and nervous organism and will refer to all matters in which the mind, objectively, is concerned. In a general sense, the unfavorable transits of Mercury indicate restless, irritating, worrying, and harassing conditions, while the favorable transits indicate mental progress, balance, poise, personal content, mental harmony, right decision, and nervous normality, as well as well-directed action, and successful effort. The evil transits of Mercury are very unfavorable for nervous complaints, irritability, associations with people, and in cases of confirmed mental or nervous pathologic states and will do much to irritate and intensify such states.

Mercury to the aspects of Venus is not important, but in the favorable aspects, turns the mind in the direction of art, music, pleasure, gaiety, somewhat stimulates the emotions, and aids to the sociability, and in the evil aspects, may do all this, but in a more marked degree.

Mercury in conjunction, square, or opposition to Mars'. This aspect tends toward irritability, impulsive speech and expression and hasty and immature judgment. It is likely, on the one hand, to lead to quarrels, misunderstandings, anger and the exhibition of some temper, and may lead you to be too critical, impatient, sharp, and too free in the expression of your ideas. People should try and be diplomatic in their relations with others, patient with those who are trying in their behavior, and if they feel out of harmony with others and their conditions, it is likely to be their own fault, while these vibrations often bring criticism, involve one in arguments, disputes, and unfavorable comment, and lead to things which one would have rather left unsaid or undone. The whole nature of the aspect is toward irritating the nerves and intensifying the mental action, and it is apt to bring you in contact with people and conditions which are very irritating and annoying—your correspondence is likely to be troublesome, others are likely to draw out of you expressions of anger and impatience, and your petty affairs are likely to become involved, confused, or worrying.

Do nothing precipitate, say nothing that is not well considered, write nothing you are sure will cause offense, and the less you have to do with correspondence, legal affairs, and the operations of the mind at this time, the better. It is a poor time to write important letters, to make decisions of moment, and for thinking up new ideas.

The unfavorable aspects of Mars to Mercury are similar in effect and are likely to be even more marked, but quite identical in quality.

Mercury in favorable aspect to Mars: This aspect is favorable for travel, for mental matters generally, and more especially for those which require forceful expression, accuracy of definition, and that are intended to work some positive result. It is favorable for any form of physical activity, as it lends vigor, strength, and vacility to the muscles. Otherwise, it is not important.

The favorable aspects of the planet Mars to the place of Mercury can be considered similarly, but as being rather more important.

Mercury in conjunction or good aspect to Jupiter: The planet Jupiter has a special bearing upon finance and all constructive, useful, and beneficial operations in the Universe, and is the planet of preservation, of peace and harmony, and has a natural ruling over all things which

are in their nature lasting, permanent, and productive of the mental, spiritual, and bodily as well as emotional comfort of the human race. For instance, in the physical world, Jupiter has a great deal to do with finance, which is the physical home and all its accessories. Therefore, the aspects of Mercury to Jupiter produce hopefulness, confidence, and faith in oneself, and makes the mental action positive, harmonious, constructive, in tune with the minds of others, and therefore disposed to listen to advice, to express diplomatically, tactfully and moderately, to act maturely, practically, and with the very best sense of utility and worth. All the attributes of the planet Jupiter may be summed up in the one word “practical” as it is popularly applied to various human activities. Anything is said to be practical which is found to be productive of positive and appreciable good, and this is what Jupiter implies. This is a good aspect under which to write, to attend to correspondence, legal affairs, and to deal with people through the medium of the mind. Under this influence you are more reasonable, tolerant, kindly, and less nervous, irritated, and impatient than usual, and your mind is likely to be more open, more harmonious, more practical than at other times. This is a good aspect for the spirits, for your dealings and associations with other people, and it is one of the best under which to make important decisions, and especially those which concern your physical and financial wellbeing and your general status in the world. It is at this time that you will be sensible.

Mercury in evil aspect of Jupiter is inclined to be too hopeful, too sanguine, too sure, and it is a poor influence under which to make important decisions, attend to important financial and legal affairs, and while it is a very important aspect, it may join its forces with others to make you act unwisely in these things. You are likely to “reckon without your host” and take too much for granted. It tends toward making promises you cannot keep, picturing things more favorable than they really are, and a species of misrepresentation which is not deliberate deceit but which arises from the

fact that for the time your impression of things is too highly colored. In all practical matters be, therefore, conservative and don’t be too sure of things turning out just as you want them.

Mercury in conjunction and evil aspect to Saturn-. This is a very depressing influence, and physically, first of all, inclined to nervous troubles, and aggravation of such things as neuralgia, rheumatism and kindred difficulties, which might already exist. (Not important enough to cause them.) You are likely to feel discouraged, unhappy, mentally out of tune, dull, and

somewhat pessimistic. Bad for correspondence, and you may receive letters which are unsatisfactory, certain unwelcome news, or fail to receive the letters you are expecting. Be careful what you put in writing, and although you will be inclined to be skeptical, be skeptical of your own judgment, and make no important decisions until the aspect has passed. Give your attention to the most routine part of your business life and try to associate with people who are cheerful and optimistic. Try not to be too critical, sarcastic, or otherwise cranky.

Mercury in the good aspects of Saturn-. This influence is good for steady mental work, application, and thought, and favors mental dealings with older people. It is slightly favorable for legal affairs, and particularly good for making important decisions in matters which will not mature hastily. It is not a very important aspect but good for concentration, continuity, and deep thought.

Mercury in conjunction and evil aspects to Uranus-. These conditions are excitable, irritating, nervous, and tense. You may be inclined to be sarcastic, impatient, irritable, and very uncertain. Try and be diplomatic in your dealings with others, and skeptical of your own judgment. The tendency is to be impatient with forms, customs, and accepted ideas, to want to think along new lines, and try mental experiments. It is very unfavorable for applications, routine work, and a time when you may find it exceedingly difficult to stay by your usual work, accustomed opinions, and maintain a steady line of conduct. This aspect is highly nervous, irritating to the mind which is inclined to search for new ideas, and to be very much dissatisfied with its usual problem (pabulum) and at this time you are

very apt to have trouble with those with whom you are generally associating, as be under such intense vibrations you are apt to behave in an unaccountably restless, cranky manner, to be subject to changes of opinion and intention, and be rather unreliable. It is a bad time in which to make important decisions, and in case of the evil aspects, decidedly bad for correspondence and writing, or for dealing with people on the mental plane and you may be inclined to entertain unpopular views, indulge in eccentric forms of expression, and generally antagonize people, while in the case of the conjunction, if there are any good aspects to the planet Uranus radically or by direction,¹ you may receive new ideas, which will be worth considering and be mentally active and keen. All the aspects mentioned are apt to bring sudden and unexpected meetings with people, unlooked for news or events mainly of a trifling nature, however, and as the general influence of the planet Uranus is rather explosive and productive at all

times the unexpected things are apt to go queerly, matters become tangled and confused, and cause a certain amount of worry and petty annoyance, and your minor affairs are likely to “pile up” on you, and cause you to be worried, hurried and otherwise tied up in knots. Do not lay too much stress upon the simple transits of one of Mercury’s positions over that of Uranus, as that will not be very marked, but should both Mercury’s transit at the same time, say one square and the other in conjunction to Uranus radical place or Mercury pass over that body in company with the Sun or Mars, the worry, confusion, and general tendency to confuse, disarrange and hurry will be rather marked.² Always take into account the other aspects that may be made at the same time, as well as the radical or progressed positions of the planet which the transiting body might meet at the same time, as all these influences will be very modifying. For instance, if the Sun and Mercury transited the conjunction of Uranus and Mars was square Uranus at birth, the influence would be, of course, very potent, but should Uranus be trine to Jupiter and sextile to Saturn so that Mercury and the Sun made their good aspects at the same time as he made the conjunction to Uranus, then these favorable angles would in a great measure prevent the confusion and enable the person to control the situation to a great degree. Take everything into account, and of course, the chief difficulty lies in the fact that at any given time, there are so many elements to consider that it is very difficult to give a right judgment, but unless in the aggregate influences are decidedly unfavorable, it is useless to expect much trouble, and the contrary.

Mercury in favorable aspects or conjunction to Uranus: If Uranus be well aspected—favorable for travel, for thinking

up new ideas, for correspondence, for speaking or writing for publicity, for any mental work, and this is a good time in which to exercise the mind to its fullest capacity. Ideas that come to you at this time are likely to be of some value and while the aspect does not of itself favor financial affairs, practical or conservative departments of life, it is splendid for inventions, progress, or ideas out of the ordinary. A good aspect under which to lecture, to meet interesting people of a mental nature, and if you have any important matters to attend to which require your brightest mental efforts, this is a good time to choose. Indicates quick action, rapid and accurate work, and keen intuition.

Mercury in conjunction or evil aspects to Neptune: A queer influence and not at all reliable. Look out for deceit, humbug, and quacks in general, deceptive ideas, lies, fraud, and don’t trust your judgments

or other's candor. When Neptune is afflicted look out for treachery, underhand enmity, scandal, and be careful what you say, sign or put in writing. Make no important decisions, think up no important ideas and consider the influence generally untrustworthy. It is a woozy aspect.

Mercury in good aspect of conjunction to Neptune: Where Neptune is well aspected—brings unusual ideas, sometimes, and is inspirational and psychic. You may meet peculiar people, especially of a spiritual or psychic type, and you may either receive or express unusual views. It is a subtle influence, leads to intuition, aids music, poetry and the arts, and in many cases, where Neptune is not prominent, it may pass without any appreciable influences. Where Neptune is powerful, it tends to strong and unusual impressions, mental illumination, and interesting experiences. Don't expect much, if anything, of it unless other influences combine. In a general sense the unfavorable transits of Mercury tend to bring unsatisfactory news, unfavorable criticism, lies, deceit, treachery and worry, petty quarreling and disputes, uneven mental action, impaired memory, want of application, interfering influences, and where Mercury makes transits over very much afflicted points, expect unkindness, unpleasant experiences with people, verbal and written attacks, severe criticism, scandal, and the like.

indicate natal configurations and "direction" to indicate progressed planetary placements.

2. Dr. Smith considered both the geocentric and heliocentric positions of the transiting planets.

Notes

1. The author uses the term "radically" to

Chapter Thirteen

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET VENUS

Favorable aspects of Venus to the Sun are very favorable for social affairs, for dealing in a social way with men, for pleasure and friendships, and are good times to plan everything of a social or artistic nature.

Favorable aspects of Venus to Mercury are good for the expression of the artistic faculties, for social amenities, for pleasant correspondence, for associations with people generally, and for one's personal happiness and content.

Favorable aspects of Venus to the Moon are fortunate for dealing with women and men, the wife or mother, for domestic affairs, for personal happiness and spirits, for pleasure, travel, and health. It is a fortunate influence under which to interview women, to ask favors of them, and for dealing with the general public, and especially in an artistic or musical way or where one's personality counts. The conjunction of Venus with the Moon always brings very pleasant experiences through some woman, unless the Moon is vilely afflicted, and tends to the expression of the emotional nature, to indulgence, sensuality, and physical enjoyment, especially where the Moon is in such signs as Taurus, Cancer, Scorpio, and Capricorn.

Aspects of Venus to Mars stir up the emotional nature very strongly and tends to impulsive expression of the affections, sudden attacks of love, and sometimes “lovers” quarrels, which are likely to end in petty displays of emotion, and charming relapses into delightful “mushiness.” It is a very good aspect under which to “raise the devil,” with your inamorata in the hopes of getting things going. In a more serious vein, the sexual instincts need guarding under the aspect, and where there is plentiful interchange of these two planets at any time in a horoscope, whether by transit of Venus to Mars or the reverse, radical or progressed, the mind is inclined to seek affection, sympathy and love, and the person is in the mood for enjoyment. In the favorable aspects, there is plenty of magnetism, activity but less likelihood of folly, and more of satisfaction, and in the adverse aspects there is the tendency to force conditions, be very impatient, passionate, and foolhardy, and things are not likely to go as smoothly or satisfactorily.

Venus in conjunction or good aspect to Jupiter: This is one of the more fortunate minor transits. First of all it is favorable for artistic and social matters, a good influence under which to meet people, make friends, entertain or be entertained. Next it usually brings favors, kindness and gifts, and usually fortunate for financial affairs generally, money usually comes in under this aspect better than usual. Jupiter governs the most conventional and conservative, as well as the most permanent departments of life, and has a natural ruling over the home, relatives, and family generally, and friends of long standing, so this influence is a very favorable one under which to visit relatives, the home, parents, or old friends. One usually sees old friends at this time and sometimes meets them unexpectedly. It is exceedingly happy in its influence, and all matters of pleasures and enjoyment are sure to go rightly under this aspect. If you want to entertain, give a concert or display work of an artistic character, this is a good time to choose, and anything of this nature is sure to be satisfactory at this time. It is a good time in which to repair quarrels, patch up friendships or renew acquaintance, and you are pretty sure to get good treatment at the hands of others at this time. It encourages generosity, tends to expenditures, assists extravagance, makes one more careful of their dress and deportment, and while expansive in nature it is all in the direction and along the lines of conservatism. It is a good aspect under which to seek the friendship of the wealthy, and distinguished in society, and those in superior positions. It is favorable for any matters connected with the home, the family, or the financial standing, and owing to the

fact that under this aspect the financial and social are blended harmoniously, it is pretty good for anything and everything in the common run of things.

Venus in evil aspect to Jupiter: This is, par excellence, the aspect of social boredom. The influence of this aspect is to place you amid circumstances which are trying from the fact of their being formal, too conservative, too stiff, and elegant for comfort, and with people who are too conventional, who are perhaps expensively dressed and appointed, richly caparisoned, so to speak, but very uninteresting, and it tends to put you where you are dissatisfied, more or less choked and hampered with too much ceremony and rich surroundings and it is inclined to lead to extravagance, display, and ostentation, and the feeling is apt to be that it was not at all worthwhile. It is a poor aspect under which to plan entertainments as they are likely to be more expensive than edifying, and for being entertained, as you are likely to wish yourself somewhere else. In case this sort of thing suits you, you are fortunate for this particular time, even if unfortunate when not so conditioned, but I have always found the evil aspects of Venus to Jupiter very annoying, barren, uninteresting, and disgustingly decent. It is not an important influence because it brings nothing positively favorable, and is neither good for finance nor for anything else, and the only good thing about it is that it is good

discipline for the disposition, as it puts you where you have to behave, whether or no, and where you would not dare to say one rotten word. It indicates fat ladies, well-filled dining tables, gilded cages, and rapidly pleasant social intercourse, in which there will not be one word of real sense, or genuine feeling. On the other hand, while it inclines to decorum and engenders perfect deportment, you will be so horrified at the realization of the ideal, that you will probably swear never to be respectable again. It enforces correct costuming, and prompt replies to invitations, as well as rapid acknowledgment of favors received. In fact, it is a holy horror! Perhaps the best feature of this trying situation is that it does not last long, unless Venus is retrograde, in which case it is best to go to bed until it is over. People you meet under this aspect are likely to be optimistic and well nourished, have a great regard for the etiquette column in the Sunday paper and their idea of being devilish is only going to church three times on Sunday and if possible four. Their equatorial circumference is likely to exceed their polar diameter by more than the aesthetic standard requires. They are likely to welcome you with a fat smile, and be very much overbolstered. In case Jupiter is radically afflicted, the type is not so pure, which

makes one willing to put up with that calamity if for no other reason. For further particulars, refer to the *Book of Snobs* by one, Thackeray.

Venus in good aspect to Uranus (also conjunction): We are now able to breathe again. These are very magnetic vibrations, but very capricious. The unexpected is likely to happen in your social affairs. You may meet someone unexpectedly, make a new acquaintance, and the unconventional side of your nature will be to the front. It is a very interested time in which to plan social affairs, meetings, and pleasures generally, and whatever takes place under these vibrations is sure to be diverting—thank god. This is a good aspect for artistic affairs, which are sure to be artistic successes, even if not financially so, which especially belongs to Jupiter, and it is a very active, inspiring aspect. If you want things to be very brilliant and interesting, this is the aspect for which to plan and especially if the contemplated function is in the least degree “bohemian.”

In case Uranus is afflicted at birth, the conjunction inclines rather too much to unconventionality, and may provoke you to be a little indiscreet or regardless of conventions, which would be a lamentable thing. On the other hand, people you meet under this aspect (conj.) will be interesting characters, magnetic and fascinating, but in the case of the afflicted Uranus, unreliable, and if you put too much

stock in them, you will be disappointed. The best way is to expect nothing of them, enjoy them while they last, which will not be long, and when they disappear magically, don't be disappointed. *In the case of the favorable aspect,* they are not so selfish and you may possibly see them again.

Venus in the evil aspect to Uranus: This is a very unconventional influence, and erratic. Your emotions are very active, and you may feel disposed to act without the advice of Mrs. Grundy. May meet someone very interesting, but don't take them seriously, as the influence is capricious, and while you might seem to be getting along famously, it is likely to come to nothing in the end. The unexpected, sudden, and unlooked for is likely to happen, and it is best not to plan too rigidly for this aspect, as your plans are likely not to come to pass. Be a little guarded in the expression of your emotional nature, and if you take chances, be a sport and don't wail if you have to pay the price. This aspect never brings anything permanent or satisfactory, but it is often provocative of alluring overtures and enticing promises. Try and be guided by reason and sound judgment, and don't let your feelings run away with you.

Venus in conjunction or evil aspect to Saturn: This is decidedly a nasty one. Plan nothing social for this time. You are

likely to expect too much of your friends and you may feel somewhat dull, unhappy, or slighted, and get your precious feelings hurt. If you are disposed to be jealous, now is the time for the exhibition of this charming trait, and misunderstandings, grouches, sensitiveness, wounded feelings, tragedies constructed out of vague imaginings, slight will not be so nice to you at this time, so be a sport and smile if it kills you. Your plans for pleasure are apt to go wrong, if it's only the weather. The one person you wanted to see won't turn up, the company will be dull and stupid, the arrangements poor, and the dinner beastly. The person you sit next to will be unattractive, your hair will not curl, your nose will be shiny and your hose holey. You will look your worst, behave your baddest, and have the satisfaction of realizing that you look at least forty years older than you are. You will act awkwardly, say yes when you mean no, and be studiously misunderstood. The friend you counted on will spend his smiles somewhere else, your rival will have a more fascinating frock and look indecently ravishing, you will not get the largest piece of pie, and you will have an extra bad attack of disjointed proboscis. You will not be the center of attraction, your smile will not dazzle as of old, and every mirror you gaze in will insult you unmercifully. It is a good time to stay home and mend the family linen. It is a propitious time for washing the week's dishes and dusting the family Bible. And it's dollars to doughnuts that all the ladies you call on will not be at home, and especially the one whom you always call "dear," the line will be busy when you want to talk to your twin sister, who, as you know, has just the most interesting something to tell you. Mr. Z, who is so clever and interesting, and understands you so well, won't be at Mrs. A's this afternoon to tea, so it's no use your going, and if you don't go, why of course, he will be there. Mrs. B, by the way, thinks she understands him as no other woman in the world ever could or did—the hussy. In short, and not to go through any further detail, it's a maddening influence, and the less you expect, the better. The best thing to do, as I have hinted, is to stay home, have a good shampoo, dig out the corners of the parlor floor, and mend your husband's socks. It is bad for social affairs, music, art or anything

in the nature of sentiment, love, or pleasure or gaiety, and unless there are very powerful contrary aspects, you may as well expect the worst.

Venus in good aspect to Saturn: This is a very negative aspect, and conduces your good behavior, discretion, and the association of older people, self-control, and all these dull proceedings. It is a very meaningless aspect, and doesn't seem to

bring much of anything and probably, like most of the favorable aspects of Saturn, is more restrictive and controlling in effect than anything else. Venus and Saturn both negative in nature, nothing happens. On the other hand, it can act as a preventive in case of too much hilarity, a disposition to be kittenish of unquiet emotional states, and where this aspect exists, there is not likely to be any indiscretion. Saturn conceals, and governs things through prudence, reason, and caution, and it is therefore a good aspect when considered as an offset to Mars and Uranus.

Venus in evil aspect to Neptune: This is a very misleading influence, tends to peculiar emotional states, psychic influences, and people you meet under this aspect are likely to exercise a very subtle influence over you, and charm you in some way which is not physical or superficial. It is, however, a rather treacherous influence and not to be relied upon. Act on this influence and you are apt to wish you hadn't and one of the most common effects of it is to make you think you are in love when you aren't, or make you think that someone else cares for you when they don't. It implies self-deception, sometimes, and people under this stimulus are apt to let their emotions lead them too much. *If Neptune is well aspected*, in the case of the conjunction, it may indicate at times a very subtle, spiritual, and elevating influence, and in any case, always a fascinating one. But the thing is not to be taken in and not to pay too much attention to, or be guided by your feelings under this aspect. Wait till other aspects set in and see how you feel then. If the accompanying aspects were good and Neptune, as aforesaid, well aspected, then the conjunction sometimes

indicates a very strong and profound influence. I have a very intimate friend, personally, and on the day we met, Venus was transiting his Neptune by conjunction, Neptune being well aspected to the Sun, Mercury, Jupiter, and Uranus, and he told me that on the day he met me, he knew that we would be very great friends, and he plainly felt a very powerful influence at work. He has Neptune rising and is very psychic. We are enjoying a very unusual and very close friendship in which the mutual relationship has been most beneficial so far. But as a general rule it is misleading influence and needs careful watching, and in many cases, probably has little or no results. There is usually something queer about either the person or the process of meeting them, and in this case, the circumstances leading up to our meeting were decidedly peculiar.

Venus in the unfavorable aspects of Neptune: This is apt to be decidedly queer, unconventional and with a touch of the romantic, the strange or the mysterious. It

is not to be trusted, leads to unwise expression of the emotional nature and there is sure to be an atmosphere of deceit, double-dealing, masquerading, or something of the kind. Don't trust people you meet where this is the dominant note in your horoscope at the time, as either they are misrepresenting themselves or you are deceiving yourself about them. Your sympathies are likely to be aroused and you are likely to be actuated by pity, compassion or some subtle psychic force which bodes no good or beneficial effects. Of course where this aspect happens to be the dominant note at the time, it is best to beware. When I say the dominant note, this would be the case, for instance, where the Sun was always transiting at the same time, or Mercury, or Mars, or where there was some important direction, especially of Venus or Mercury, to Neptune in the progressed horoscope, and more than one transit at the same time or where one position of Venus was transiting Neptune and the other Uranus, or its evil aspect or some such mix-up. Where the other aspects are very normal, then Neptune will do no more than throw an air of mystery around these things, or romance, and adds slightly to the flavor of the unusual, which may be just enough to make the combination interesting. Never look for marked effects unless there is some sort of concerted effect, for although I have tried to describe these aspects very carefully, and give them the right coloring, I have exaggerated in order to do so, and if they all worked out just as I have said, life would be too interesting to ever leave. The whole difficulty lies in correct analysis of mixtures, and giving things their right proportions.

Chapter Fourteen

THE TRANSITS OF THE SON

Sun in evil aspects or conjunction to Saturn: The periods when the Sun makes the conjunction or evil aspects of Saturn mark the most depressing times of the year, and especially for health and general business affairs. This is a very unfavorable time for any work of an initiative nature, and is only fit for working on matters already under way. It slows up the functions generally, causes one to be most susceptible to colds or any trouble which is the result of poor elimination, and one should avoid at this time getting overheated and cooling off too quickly. One is apt to feel tired, dragged, and somewhat lacking in “snap” if nothing more. If any important propositions are made to you at this time, be sure first of all, that they are prompted by sincere motives, and secondly that they are quite practicable. If the ordinary affairs of your life go along quite satisfactory at this time, you should be quite satisfied, even if you do not seem to be accomplishing anything great. If your own affairs are all right, you may be worried over the health or affairs of some member of your family, or some person intimate in your life, particularly of the male sex. If the Sun in making this transit, makes at the same time, the benefic aspect of

Jupiter, Venus, Uranus, etc., especially Jupiter, whether by trine, sextile, conjunction, even opposition and quintile, or the opposition of the quintile—108 degrees—then the effect of that particular transit will not be so marked, and the worst period of the year will be brought out by another aspect of the transiting Sun to Saturn, at a point of the horoscope which does not meet good aspects. And so of all the transits.

Sun in evil aspects or conjunction to Uranus-. This transit causes one to feel much stirred up and very intense, and it is a time when it takes little to throw you off your poise. In the case of the conjunction and where Uranus has evil aspects in the radix to Mercury, the Moon, or Mars, it is a very disturbed time indeed, and when everything is apt to go awry for a few days. If subject to nervous trouble, this aspect will intensify them or bring them out. Be very skeptical of all propositions made to you at this time, and if you have any new ideas of a radical nature for conducting your business or life at this time, be cautious about putting them into execution, and it will be better to wait and see if, after the passage of this transit, they will still seem to you as practical or attractive as they did. If you feel totally out of harmony, dissatisfied with your condition and with the people about you, restless, nervous, and on edge, be patient, as it is a condition that will soon pass off. This aspect is apt to bring the element of the unexpected into the

life, and events of a sudden and unlooked for nature are apt to happen. If you have any important matters under way, do not be surprised if they suddenly fall through at the last moment, as it is of the very nature of Uranus to bring disaster at the last moment.

Sun in good aspects of Uranus (including quintile and sesquiquintile, 108 degrees): This a very favorable condition for having dealings with corporations, the government, and large enterprises out of the ordinary, and it is well to make the most of opportunities which lead up to you at this time. It is favorable for any work of an initiative character, inventing, untried enterprises, or asking favors of people of intellect, genius, attainment, or power, and in a general sense, for anything of an unusual type. This transit brightens up the intuition, adds vim and snap to the activities, tones up the system, and is an excellent aspect under which to plan anything which needs special effort, and in the doing of which one needs all of one's inspiration and nervous force.

Sun transiting the favorable aspects of Saturn: This is not at all important in respect of the fact that Saturn is a restricting and negative force, and there is not likely to bring about any particular marked event of effect. It is an aspect of self-control, conservatism, caution, and

during the operation of which one has oneself in hand more or less and its influence will serve to tone down the effect of any Martial or Uranian aspect which might for the time be in force. It would be a favorable time for seeking favors from old people, for listening to advice, for attending to precautionary measures, and favorable for routine work, finishing up work that has been already begun, or attending to matters which are by their nature slow, heavy, and monotonous. Favorable for matters which are by their nature connected with the earth, real estate, or old conditions. Whatever of good this aspect brings will be on account of its tendency toward control, moderation, and caution, and by process of elimination rather than initiation of the opposite.

Sun in evil aspect of conjunction to Neptune: This is a very unreliable influence, and in all cases, except those where Neptune is a very utilized force, it is best to be skeptical of the people one meets at this time, any propositions made to you, and there is likely to be an element of fraud playing about you during its continuance. Your own ideas are likely to be impractical and unreliable, and tinged with some emotional or altruistic streak which may be very pleasant to experience and very dangerous to take too seriously. In the case of the conjunction, however, where Neptune has favorable aspects in the radix, it might be well to attend to any ideas which come to you at this time, as in this case they are likely not only to be actuated by motives of a very high order, but also capable of fit and successful expression. In other cases, if at this time you feel peculiarly nervous, ill at ease, and depleted or depressed, try to get away from your accustomed surroundings, and from the people with whom you are normally most intimate, as there is something in your mutual magnetisms which need adjusting,

and you are probably being unfavorably acted upon on the psychic plane. A brief change of surroundings and associations will be the best possible thing for you. At this time you are likely to be appealed to through your sympathies, and any propositions made to you under these vibrations are likely to be “bubble schemes,” or an attempt, however laudable, to get something for nothing by appealing to the higher vibrations in you, so keep your eyes open, and carefully investigate any plans put before you, or any suggestions to reap a quick harvest, they will usually be either impracticable, founded on crazy ideas, or else deceptive, visionary, or otherwise unsatisfactory, and above all, see that the person is not trying to pull the wool over your eyes.

Sun in favorable aspects to Neptune: A very subtle vibration and probably apprehended by very few individuals,

and not of very great importance unless the horoscope shows Neptune to be active and vital. In this case it usually brings to bear aspiration of a very spiritual and transcendental order, throwing into activity the altruistic, devotional, unselfish, and serving elements of the character, inspiring one to acts of kindness, charity, love of one's kin, etc., and it is the most favorable time for experience of a high order, whether purely psychic or emotional. Under these vibrations, one may experience ennobling sentiments, and undergo spiritual or religious phases but it all depends on the condition of the horoscope; and in a great many cases the more delicate the subtle essence of Neptune is quite lost among the coarser vibrations of Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn. In practical ways, little can be said of it. Neptune works mainly on the psychic plane; but it would at least be well not to disregard any unusual influence which might enter the life at this time as it would be likely to be of some importance spiritually, and meant for one's higher development; and it is under aspects of this sort that inner experiences come.

Sun in favorable aspects to Jupiter: Just as Saturn marks off the most unfavorable periods of the life, and the Sun's transits to him, the most troublesome periods of the year; so the Sun's aspects to Jupiter point out the most favorable periods of the year from the material and general standpoint. These vibrations are magnetic, health giving, toning up the system; giving courage through confidence, faith, hope, ambition, strength, and efficiency to the whole being. It is the time to ask favors of those in power: from the wealthy, from one's friends or relations and particularly the male sex, and at this time one naturally approaches people in such a manner as to stir the best in them. When one has confidence, one naturally inspires confidence. Accordingly, almost anything of a reasonable nature that one undertakes at this time will go through at this time satisfactorily; and it is an exceedingly good time for work of a constructive and an

initiatory nature, and if you have any important financial matters to attend to, this is the best time in which to do so. Do not reject any propositions made to you at this time, and any people you may meet, so long as it is not in a purely social way, are likely to be friendly to you and favor your cause. Anything that you commence at this time should go forward fairly well and any plans or propositions that come up to you are likely to prove important and beneficial, even if at first they may not appear so. This aspect is favorable for health and favorable for one's dealing with the male sex, as well as for the members of the family. In all respects the periods covered by the

Sun's aspects to Jupiter will be the most fortunate and beneficial of the year, unless it should happen that the Sun forms at the same period the very evil aspects of the malefics; which will hardly happen at every transit; although it might start some of them especially where Jupiter is heavily afflicted, and when the Sun's conjunction will not bring the benefit that it should.

Sun in evil aspect to Jupiter: This cannot be considered a very evil aspect as it is not at all depressing or unhappy in its influence; for to the contrary it is very hopeful, confident, sanguine influence, but far too much so and in this lies the evil, for it inspires people to be too confident, too hopeful, too sure, and to think that there is safety where there is really danger. It is therefore treacherous influence financially, although not indicating a severe loss; but nothing at this time is likely to turn out satisfactorily or according to one's wishes, and it is a transit under which one's expectations are likely to be disappointed through being too expensive. It is best not to trust people who bring you propositions at this time, they are likely to be impractical or misrepresented. The prospects may read well but there may be very little at the back of it. People at this time are likely to allay your fears, hold out promises, and raise your hopes, but if they do so, be on your guard, as the aspect promises little. It is a poor time for an initiative work, and especially where money is involved, and it

is likely to lead to eventual loss. It is a poor time for law and for legal affairs and in the case of the square or the opposition, where Jupiter is afflicted by Mercury at birth, it is indicative of litigation, endless worry and vexation, red tape, form, ceremony observance, and all the time killers that can be thrown in the way of the unwary. It is a safe rule not to allow oneself to be drawn into any financial or legal affairs at this time, and to be most cautious where money is involved. If Jupiter is afflicted at birth by Uranus, Saturn, or Mars, it is a time when serious loss may take place. On the personal side, this aspect means enthusiasm, unwise impulse, the tendency to make greater promises than one can fulfill and, in a general way, a too great expansion of the feelings that may result in foolish expenditure, indiscreet generosity, and in some cases religious mania or excitation. In a word, one should avoid at this time allowing one's self to be carried away by one's feelings, hopes or ambitions and expectations, which in this case, are likely to be unreliable and misleading.

Sun in the aspects to Venus: There are several aspects of minor import whose results are similar and sometimes several of them come at the same time. These are: good or bad aspects of Sun to

Venus; Venus to Sun; Mars to Venus; Venus to Mars.

All these have the effect of rousing the emotional or sex nature, and making one more susceptible to beauty, music, art, the attractions of the opposite sex, amusement, pleasure, love of dress and finery, and making one more magnetic; and in the case of the favorable aspects, especially of Venus to the Sun and the Sun to Venus, it is a good time for planning social affairs, amusements, and for pleasures generally, or for arranging meetings with those for whom you care and with whom you wish to enjoy yourself. The evil aspects have all the effect of making one magnetic and putting one in the right mood for enjoyment, but under their influence things are not likely to go so smoothly, or to one's satisfaction, and one may be inclined to force issues, strain the natural order of circumstances in order to gain a point, or in some way to act foolishly and inadvisedly. The transits of the Sun to the places of Venus, geo and helio, radical and progressed are worth watching, for under the conjunction or even the trine or sextile, one sometimes meets people who play an important part in life; but if there are no important transits of the major planets operating on Venus at the time, and particularly of Uranus and Jupiter, nothing of note need be expected. However, very pleasant influences are always brought about by the Sun to the conjunction, sextile, trine Venus; Venus

conjunction, trine, sextile Sun: and even Venus aspecting her own place by good aspects, while the aspects of Venus to Mars and the contrary, when good, increases the magnetism, promotes gaiety and lively amusement, and in the unfavorable aspects act very strangely on the emotional nature, and inclines to indiscretion and dangerous impulses. As a general rule, do not plan social matters, meetings with friends, and all things which concern pleasure, art, music, etc., on the bad aspects more than you can help and the more favorable aspects that you can find to the places of Venus, whether from the Sun, Mars, Venus, or Mercury or those of Venus to Mercury and the Sun, and the Moon transiting a favorable aspect only concern things of a transitory nature, the really important things and lasting affairs come under the major transits.

Sun in evil aspects to Mars or Mars in evil aspects to the Sun: Mars here gives force and energy to the feelings. The native is inclined to adopt a too dictatorial attitude, to act on impulses to use force, to try to drive things through regardless of the feelings of others, and as a result, quarrels, misunderstandings, and even violence may result, according to the horoscope. The thing to do is to try to keep in harmony at this time, to use patience and discretion, to avoid

forcing issues, and whatever might be attempted at this time is likely to be founded upon impulses that are misleading. Conditions of unpleasantness, of great intensity are sometimes brought about through the transit of Mars to the Sun, but owing to the transient nature of that planet, they are short lived, and nothing should be done, no great alterations made, and no issue taken on this aspect—it always tends to cause people to do things for which they are sorry very soon after; and as soon as the Martial aspect disappears, they are apt to find that they had no good safe or sane reason for acting.

Mars transiting the Sun is an indication of quarrels, differences and misunderstandings with the male sex, and in the nativities of married women, difficulties with the husband, or in others, with the father, lover of any male intimate in the life. It also indicates danger of accident, sometimes, and especially when making the transit while Uranus or Saturn are afflicting the Sun by transit at the same time. This planet in transit also is likely to bring about sudden attacks of illness of an inflammatory sort to aggravate evil conditions already prevailing, and while positive and vitalizing in its nature, it may result in those forms of ill health that are caused by fever, overactivity, excitement, overheating, and the like. Never judge a transit of Mars as either dangerous or lasting unless either Saturn, Jupiter, or Uranus are in aspect at the same time of the transit; as in the case of Roosevelt who had Uranus squaring the Sun and the helio Mars in conjunction the day he was shot. If Uranus had not been in aspect, too, Mars would never have caused it. (T. R. had also a progressed secondary direction of Mars to conjunct helio Saturn radical on ascendant

in Leo, very near square of the radical Sun at the time—according to the *Nautical Almanac* “E.D.M.E.R.”) Mars transits the Sun two or three times a year, and it is only when some ponderable body assists, that danger really threatens. The other possible case is where, for instance, the radical Sun is afflicted by Mars, on the progressed horoscope by other planets; as events are caused (1) by violent concerted attack of planetary aspects to one point of the horoscope, (2) by attack of several planets in transit to several points of the horoscope, especially where it is possible to find more than one point of the horoscope, whether by direction or radix, that indicates a similarity of effect—as for instance, where the radical Sun might have the conjunction of Mars radically, and the progressed Sun the square of Uranus radically; and where both points were afflicted in transit by Mars, the Sun and either Jupiter, Uranus, or Saturn, and especially the last two. The main point at

issue being that the simple transit of Mars can do no more than stir up minor disagreeables, which, however, are very marked and threatening while they last. The transit of the Sun to Mars is similar in nature, but not as marked in effect. The radical place of Mars is not a vital point, though it is an afflicted one.

Sun in good aspect to Mars or Mars in good aspect to the Sun: Not so important, and simply indicates the time when the vital forces are active, a good time for enterprises, for health, for pushing thru those things which require courage, energy, and initiative. It distinctly favors health and would be a favorable period for the adoption of forceful or drastic measures; for operations or for any form of force. It is a good foil for the evil influences of Saturn and stirs up the activities, prevents too great a degree of stagnation, engenders a positive attitude, and is a tonic influence. It is neither so powerful, so lasting, or beneficial as Jupiter, but it is a force of a similar sort, but more active, assertive, and indicates activity and particularly physical activity.

Sun to Mercury or Mercury to the Sun: Not of importance, if Mercury is afflicted at time of birth then it becomes very important, and the nature of the influence will be in accordance with the particular aspect. It, of course, vitalizes and intensifies the mental action, and in the case where Mercury is fairly well conditioned, it gives force, energy, and activity to the mind. It is then good for

correspondence, for planning ideas, for all matters which concern papers and documents and legal affairs, but this will only be where Mercury is well supported, the very contrary being the case where it is not.

The Sun to the evil aspect of Mercury: A worrying, fretful, restless, and nervous aspect, tending toward change, movement, uncertainty and confusion, and more especially, of course, where Mercury is afflicted by Mars, Uranus, or the Moon. Events are likely to become chaotic at this time, and matters mixed and tangled, with consequent indecision, hurry, confusion, and strain. It is best not to make important decisions under this aspect, unless there are favorable aspects of Mercury at the same time, or unless the place of Mercury is very well aspected.

In a general sense, the Sun brings things to pass, although it is not the only influence which does so, but this much will be true; the Sun seems more or less to concentrate the forces in the direction of his transits; that is to say, if matters of a more or less Martial character are under way, the transit of the Sun over Mars will precipitate things, and the same of any other. The transit of the Sun to afflicted points of the horoscope are very evil times, and it takes very powerful and positive aspects otherwise to mitigate the

effects. If you have some particular or important matters pending, and it has to culminate at a time when the Sun is trining your Jupiter, it is equally good. It is not a good idea to commence things when the Sun is aspecting the malefics in your horoscope, and it is good to commence matters when the Sun has the favorable aspects of the benefics, or the favorable aspects of the malefics accord- • ing to the nature of the matter. The transits of the Sun are very important, and very vital, which can be readily learned from the fact that the transits of the Sun over Saturn depresses everybody, devitalizes,

and brings things to a momentary standstill; whereas the transit of the Sun to Jupiter or his favorable aspects, does the contrary, and while the Sun is transiting the favorable aspects of Jupiter, everything goes well, unless at this particular aspects, the Sun meets the evil aspects of Saturn or Uranus, or a number of minor impediments. But, of the minor aspects, the Sun's are the most vital and important.

Chapter Fifteen

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET MARS

Mars in conjunction or evil aspect to the Moon: This stirs up the emotions and the senses, and in horoscopes that are uncontrolled may lead to excesses, petty violence, displays of temper, and domestic brawls. It usually indicates trouble with or through women. You may be worried on account of some woman intimate in your life, or your domestic affairs may be unsettled and troublesome. You may have trouble with some woman, and at this time, it is necessary to exercise self-control and caution so as not to do so. Annoyance with or through women is the commonest concomitant of this aspect. It also can indicate some trouble with your health, and if the Moon is afflicted at birth it is likely to cause feverish complaints, functional troubles, or slight accidents. You are likely to be excited or angry, and it sometimes causes a journey or makes you want to travel.

Mars in favorable aspect to the Moon is not at all important.

Mars transiting the conjunction, square, or opposition of his own place: This usually stirs up the energies, and under this aspect self-control, diplomacy, and caution are needed. Where Mars is afflicted at birth, slight accidents

are possible, especially where Mars afflicts Mercury, when trivial mishaps may occur through carelessness or recklessness. Where Mars afflicts the Sun at birth it sometimes causes slight cuts, abrasions, or fevers. If Mars, at birth, is afflicted by Saturn or Uranus, then these times may bring accidents, but not as a rule, unless some other planet is transiting the evil aspect of the radical Mars, Saturn, or Uranus at the same time.

Mars in conjunction or evil aspect of Jupiter: This is an aspect of impulse, expansion of the feelings, generosity, carelessness, and recklessness in the matter of expenditure in finance. It indicates heavy expense, unsatisfactory purchases, extravagance, loss, theft, and the inclination to take financial risk. It is the typical aspect of loss. Under this aspect, make no important purchases or you will find that you have not acquired what you really wanted, the article is not satisfactory, you have paid too much for it, or you have bought under impulse something you could very well have done without. Do not be careless about property as you may lose it or be robbed. Hold fast to your pocketbook. Don't speculate or take chances where money is concerned. In a general way, and outside of the financial consideration, which is the most important in the case of this aspect, don't be guided by your feelings, don't be too generous, too magnanimous, and avoid fanaticism, the

over-expression of your sentiments, dogmatism. It is also an aspect typical of religious mania, so do not trust any sudden impulse to do quixotic or generous things, or make rash promises or you might find out that you have made a serious mistake, promised more than you can possibly perform, or otherwise committed yourself unwisely. Avoid legal matters; you will probably lose.

Mars in the good aspect of Jupiter: The favorable aspects of Mars to Jupiter tend to acts of generosity, courage, and heroism, to deeds which are prompted by nobility, high sense of duty, manliness and magnanimity; to largehandedness, to the free expression of the religious instincts, to proselytizing, to hospitality, kindness, and tolerance towards enemies, and to all the deeds which befit the attitude of the strong and the able towards the weak and defenseless. It gives rise to any and every species of action which one naturally identifies with the true nobleman. It tends toward expenditure, but not toward loss.

Mars in the conjunction or evil aspect of Saturn: This is an aspect of great inharmony, and one is likely to feel bitter, abused, or badly treated without due cause. It is apt to make things difficult, and for the time being your work may not go right, you may be subjected to treachery or jealousy, and you should be

very careful not to place yourself in accidental situations. The temper under this aspect is a little fractious and troublesome, and the tendency to be revengeful and to brood over wrongs more marked.

Mars in conjunction or evil aspect of Uranus: This makes one feel disagreeable, and unless one exercises self-control the temper is likely to be troublesome and vicious, and antagonism is easily aroused. Accidents sometimes happen, and one's work is likely to go wrong, one is apt to feel reckless, act on very hasty impulse, and to take chances in a rather wild way. The utmost caution is always needed under this aspect.

Mars in conjunction or evil aspect of Neptune: This arouses the emotional nature and is apt to attract peculiar conditions. Where Neptune is afflicted at birth by the Moon or Venus the sense nature is much stimulated and the imagination very active. There may be a tendency to self-gratification, danger of indulging in drugs or narcotics, and states of great excitability. Where Mercury aspects Neptune at birth—this transit is rather hysterical and very emotional and it is hard to keep to one's work and to follow a settled course. The temper is strange, easily aroused, and quickly dispersed.

Chapter Sixteen

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET JUPITER

The Major transits are the most important element in the science of prediction, and everything that can happen to the human being is determined, mainly, by these. The critical times in the period of transit will be those times when the Sun and Mars swing also into aspect with the superiors; as for instance, when the transit of Mars afflicts the body that is at the same time afflicted by Saturn and Uranus; these are very marked and very threatening. Even Jupiter in the evil aspects is dangerous in much afflicted nativities; and the combined transit of Saturn and afflicting Jupiter, or of Uranus and afflicting Jupiter, over heavily afflicted points in the nativity must be regarded with caution and suspicion.

It is very important that one never lose sight of the fact that most of the events of life are produced by combinations of transits, affecting radical and progressed places, and that no one transit over a single place is ever productive of important events; it is always the combinations that are of consequence.

The very marked periods of a person's life are produced by the coincidence of two or three important transits over two or three important radical or progressed

places; the planets transiting being those that hold significant places in the natus; especially when angular or when the places tarnished are angular. The most marked effects are (in regard to a single department of life) when both the progressed and radical places of a planet, helio and geo, are either all afflicted at the same time or all benefited at the same time. Also when both the radical and progressed ascendant are attacked at the same time, etc., when, for instance, all four positions of Mercury are so attacked with very little assistance from favorable angles, and Mercury is radically afflicted, the tendency of nervous disorder is very marked, and the mind is in a great state of confusion. When all four places of Venus are so attacked by the malefics at the same time, a period of great unhappiness or grief is likely. And finally, when Sun, Moon, and Venus are all afflicted at the same time by transit, the consequences are likely to be very marked indeed.

But when the radical Sun is afflicted by Saturn, the progressed Sun being at the same time benefited by the transit of Jupiter, even though Saturn does afflict the radical Sun by this transit (evil aspect) then the consequence, at least as long as Jupiter assists the progressed Sun, are not likely to be all serious, unless the radical Sun is very heavily afflicted at birth and the progressed Sun is in a position that also meets several evil aspects. Jupiter, normally, is well able to ward off the worst effects of Saturn so

long as he continues near the aspect, but it must be remembered at the same time that no planet *nullifies* the action of any other planet.

Suppose the radical Sun is squared in transit by Saturn and trined by Jupiter; each of these bodies will have its particular effect, and while the square of Saturn will bring some misfortune into the life; the trine of Jupiter will bring some good fortune which in the aggregate will greatly compensate for the evil done by Saturn. But will not really do away with the influence of that planet—Saturn will have his effect.

Jupiter in favorable aspect to the Sun: These are among the most marked periods of the life, when the health is good, the spirits above par, everything is prosperous, and new opportunities are arising; and Jupiter brings, when aspecting the Sun, times of recuperation, the attaining of one's object, financial improvement, and in all ways heads the ill effects of the malefics. Jupiter is in favorable aspect to the Sun during a very large proportion of a person's life, and especially when you consider that the progressed Sun has also to be taken into account.

First, it is favorable for one's dealings with the male sex. The father, the husband, or any man intimate in the life;

and at this time the men associated with you closely are inclined to be happier, more fortunate, in better health and spirits, and kinder, more considerate, and beneficial to you. It is a general signification of health and prosperity to the male side of the family. It is favorable to any man with whom you are associated in business or in any way that is not strictly social; and it is the best time in which to enter upon new relations with men, make partnerships, or to establish business connections. It usually brings into the life men who play a helpful and beneficial part in your destiny, and it also brings offers and opportunities in a business way to men, and sometimes offers of marriage to women. It is a splendid aspect under which to marry.

It is also favorable financially, one's money matters go along smoothly, and money comes in without delay, obstruction, or trouble. It indicates freedom from delays and hindrances, and the clearing of the way for the accomplishment of ends. It always ushers in a better financial period, although if the radical Jupiter is afflicted at the same time by Saturn, the results from the financial standpoint may not be so marked.

It is also favorable for honors, attainment of position and power, bestowal of favors, advance in rank, and in a general sense will materially aid in bringing your plans to completion. Whatever you undertake under this aspect is likely to succeed. If you inaugurate new movements under it, they are likely to prosper. Friendships made at this time are likely to prove beneficial. Partnerships entered upon are satisfactory. For a woman, the men she meets and becomes interested in are likely to prove fortunate for her. Opportunities arising at this time should never be neglected and one should plan to take advantage of the periods of Jupiter to the fullest extent by putting oneself in line for meeting new

people, by embracing opportunities, and by being open to suggestion and chances that arise during this aspect. It is a time when one can safely take a chance, and it is a very strong promise of sure success to enter upon an undertaking when Jupiter is making the approach to a sextile, trine, or conjunction of the Sun.

For a woman, it works out the same way. Provided that she is in any sense professionally employed or in the business world; and as this is not usually the case, the aspect works out through her health and through her relations with the men with whom she is associated. It benefits the husband and all men who concern her intimately, even her sons (though you will regard testimonies gathered from the fifth for sons, the third for brothers and seventh for the husband, etc.), and it indicates a period of success for them. It is the aspect par excellence of

material prosperity, advantage, opportunity, and success.

Jupiter in opposition or square to the Sun-. This aspect, not usually noticed much by the astrologer, but certainly very important, is, in a general sense, favorable for health and spirits, making one cheerful, confident, and optimistic; but it tends to surfeit, congestion, and dispose tissue, and is not really and finally a favorable aspect at all. The case of the square, it has a very misleading trait, which has led the astrologer to attribute to the square of the radical Jupiter to the Sun the benefits that belong to the trine and the sextile. This arises from the curious fact that when Jupiter is squaring the Sun geocentrically he is quintile to the Sun heliocentricity, and when he is quintile to the Sun geocentrically he is squaring the Sun heliocentricity, so that there is a double aspect, and it will be better to reckon the square as not so evil as the opposition, as the latter will have no compensating aspect. In the case of the square, there are likely to be present some of the effects of the good aspects and some of the effects of the bad, although, of course, the consequences of the quintile can hardly be as powerful as those of the conjunction, trine, and sextile.

The tendency is toward the arising of opportunities that appear very favorable and in which one takes great stock and has high hopes, but the outcome is never satisfactory, there is often more expense

than profit and hampering conditions. One is often obliged to put up with certain forms of limitation, particularly along lines of that species of circumstances where the conditions are outwardly favorable, apparently prosperous, and in which all the attendant incidents are well-appearing but in connection with which one is dissatisfied, tied down, and restless. One has to submit to authority of those who follow what one knows to be false standards, wrong or mistaken methods, to be annoyed by various harassing conditions, and always in such a way that the thing on the outside seems to be all right and has much to commend it. One of the chief concomitants is increased expense, misled ambitions and aspirations, ambitions directed in the wrong channels, and one finally finds out that one cannot get along that way. This is a poor time for important financial matters, for entering upon new enterprises, for attempting to gratify one's ambitions, for expecting increase, advance, and honors. It is also a poor time for legal affairs and for dealing with people of wealth and power, and while it may bring certain opportunities into the life, they are never very satisfactory.

Jupiter in conjunction and favorable aspect to the Moon-. This is singularly fortunate for one's dealings with the public, for travel and for domestic affairs,

for personal happiness, for one's relations with women, and usually at this time some woman plays a very important and helpful part in the life. It is very favorable for the health and affairs of the wife, mother, or any woman intimate in the life, and is a harmonizing, peaceful influence under which your private and personal affairs are likely to be well ordered, your senses under control, your instincts normal, and it favors conservatism, regard for the conventions, improved ways of living, well-regulated habits, and good health. It is a very fortunate time in which to make domestic changes, and any made at this time are likely to be fortunate. It is a fortunate time in which to make the acquaintance of women, and favors and kindnesses are likely to come through them. Any woman entering your life at this time is sure to be beneficial, a good influence, and likely to assist you in some financial way. If your domestic affairs are at all involved, and, in the case of a man, his matrimonial affairs, this aspect serves to straighten things out, and in every way it operates favorably upon the private life. At this time your emotional nature is more under control, your feelings are directed into more healthy and normal channels and it is a time for reform, of reconstruction, and the abandonment of evil courses. It is, of course, especially favorable for the health of a woman.

People whose business connects them with the general public will benefit at this time, especially politicians, and the like. It is a fortunate aspect under which to marry, for a man.

Jupiter in evil aspect to the Moon: Your domestic affairs at this time will be well ordered, but you are likely to be hampered and interfered with at this time by influences which are too conservative, too conventional, and people who are too much taken up with the externals of life. You are likely to be compelled, for the time, to follow certain lines of action of which you do not approve and to hold yourself in check, and act in a more conventional manner than is your wont. It is unfavorable for the health and affairs of the wife or mother, and domestic affairs are likely to be expensive, and there may be a tendency at this time for too much display, extravagance, and show. This is not a very important aspect, but quite annoying in

some ways.

Jupiter in conjunction or favorable aspect to Mercury: Under this aspect, you will receive stimulus toward mental advancement, and particularly in the direction of making of practical use of the knowledge you have or of acquiring the more practical end of any subject, in which you may be interested. For instance, suppose that you are interested in Astrology, and you have the transit of Uranus over your Mercury, this will

cause you to seek for new ideas, to extend the theoretical knowledge, and to know and understand more about the more difficult problems, to try experiments, enter upon research work, etc., but the aspect of Jupiter will cause you to feel that you want, now, to bring all your knowledge to a practical standpoint, to make it useful and profitable, and since Jupiter is the planet of finance, and of practical constructiveness, you can readily see that it causes you to treat your knowledge in such a way as to make it useful, and so it does not mean the acquisition of new ideas so much as the ordering, application, extension, and practical understanding of the old ones. You will increase your stock of useful knowledge, you will increase your efficiency and practical ability, and by the time the aspect has passed on, you will be in a better position to use the time and profit by the ideas you had. It causes one to study, to reach out for learning, to consult authorities, to reduce their ideas to system, to listen to the advice and counsel of others, to be more tolerant and more amenable to reason and less critical, less incredulous, and it usually brings someone into the life whose knowledge, advice, and encouragement aid one in this task. It is a splendid aspect under which to take up definite courses of study, especially those prescribed by authority, and to reach out for mental honors. It favors writing, correspondence, and all legal affairs, it is fine for the judgment, it is a good time in which to make important decisions which will influence your future, and in every way it brightens up, vitalizes, and makes efficient the action of the mind. It is a most important influence, a good aspect under which to speak of write, to publish, advertise, but the most important influence is what has already been mentioned, namely, to enable you to put your ideas into shape. Suppose a case while Uranus was in aspect to Mercury, I would think up new ideas, investigate theories, invent and make them practical, put them in right shape for use, complete them, fill out all the details and “market them.” So, under this aspect, people are likely to improve their working methods, business men are likely to improve and put to rights office management and it is also a favorable aspect for one’s relations with employees, especially clerks and the like. It frees one

from worry, makes minor matters go smoothly, and means content, satisfaction, and cheerfulness. It removes nervousness, irritability, and fretfulness, gives confidence, sociability, and causes one’s relations with people generally to be more satisfactory.

Jupiter afflicting Mercury: This is a bad time for legal affairs and litigation, bad for making important decisions affecting matters of finance, and tends to

loss, worry over money and property, and while not a disastrous aspect, or very evil, tends to a condition of affairs which is very unsatisfactory, because the mind is in a very sanguine condition and one's hopes and expectations will hardly be realized. It tends to wrong conceptions, causes one to be compelled to exercise the mind on matters which are hardly interesting or really profitable, associates one with people who try one's patience, and annoys one with their red tape, officiousness, conventionality, etc., and it is quite an annoying aspect. Unless Mercury is afflicted at birth or by direction, it is not necessary to expect much of this aspect. It is, however, unwise to enter legal matters, or undertake important correspondence or study under this aspect.

Jupiter in conjunction and good aspect to Venus'. This is one of the most favorable transits that can occur in a minor way in the nativity. It brings new friends, pleasant social affairs, presents, favors, happiness, personal comfort and contentment, invitation, kindness and consideration from friends, and usually brings someone into the life who plays a helpful part, particularly in the way of stirring up and gratifying the better and more wholesome side of the emotional nature. It is a very healthy satisfactory influence, and tends towards relations which are at the same time perfectly in accord with the conventions and perfectly pleasant in every respect. It favors visits to old friends, intercourse with relatives, and one's home, and it is a very good aspect under which to visit old friends or relatives, to effect reconciliations, marriages, any and all social affairs, artistic affairs, and it indicates in the lives of the artistic, gain

and success through their particular art. It always brings pleasurable and beneficial experience into the life and is socially constructive. This is the time to extend your acquaintance, to pick up friends, to broaden your social horizon, and to take up the broken threads of interrupted friendships, particularly will it be quite sure to bring some very pleasant influence into the life, whether male or female, someone who will minister to your pleasure, afford you considerable happiness, and in a general way make life happier for you. You will be in a mood for enjoyment, and yet inclined to seek normal and healthy forms of it, and its influence is strongly against any form of pleasure which is not wholesome. This will especially apply to the trine, sextile, and quintiles, as the conjunction, if it occur in a place where there are many afflicting aspects meeting, it may not be able to overcome the abnormal tendencies, but it will at least throw its influence in that direction. It is under this aspect that people take fresh courage, get younger, and more spontaneous, attend to their dress and appearance, are more

magnetic, more cheerful and more social and naturally seek the fellowship of their kind. It nearly always brings favors, kindness, and presents. It is always wise to plan for some trip, important social affairs, important artistic matters, holidays, and journeys for pleasure. Visits to people of whom you are fond, marriages, when you see this aspect coming on, as no matters of this sort can go very badly under this aspect unless there are contradictory aspects of a very powerful sort.

Jupiter in evil aspect of Venus'. If you refer to the contrary aspect, namely Venus to evil aspect of Jupiter, you will get the coloring of this, without the necessity of repeating all the details. It ushers in a period where you are apt to be associated with people who bore you with their overconventional attitude. You are likely to have a great many invitations, favors, and even presents that you don't want and would rather be without, and it has a sort of stifling effect that a close room overheated has. Of course it is not in every horoscope that these effects come out quite so strongly, but that is the phase of the aspect.

Jupiter transiting conjunction or evil aspect to Mars: It seems to me that I gave you this, but in case not, here it is. This is expansive to the feelings and emotions, leads to acts of courage, unselfishness, religious enthusiasm, generosity, and disregard for money and tends to extravagance, carelessness, and sometimes loss. It is, in a general way, threatening financially, as all of Jupiter's aspects are to planets by square, opposition, or semi-square, or an afflicted conjunction. I was

robbed under the following configuration: Jupiter entering Scorpio opposite Neptune and Mars radical and square to Mercury, helio, with Saturn entering Taurus in opposition. It was through sheer carelessness, as I did not properly guard my things, and thought it perfectly safe to leave things exposed. The conjunction or favorable aspects to Mars are good for soldiers, doctors, surgeons, and those who follow Mars professions, or are engaged in work of a dangerous, enterprising or arduous nature, where the principles of courage, strength, and initiative are called out.

Jupiter in conjunction or good aspects to Saturn: This is not important and tends to economy, prudence, and care in matters of finance. This aspect is restrictive, and produces nothing positive, but favors dealings with old people, things connected with old conditions, the earth, real estate, mines, house or land property, and is a very good time to start a bank account, enter upon financial matters with regard to one's distant future, etc.

Jupiter in evil aspects of Saturn: This is a slightly restricting unfavorable aspect for financial matters generally and is a delaying, hampering, and interesting

aspect. It slows down the benefic rays of Jupiter, and if Jupiter is making the good aspect to some part of the horoscope, meets this aspect, it must, to a large extent, prevent the full effect of Jupiter, and slow down his vibrations. It is an annoying aspect, but not of the greatest importance, as good aspects to the radical place of Jupiter can easily offset the influence.

Jupiter in good aspect or conjunction to Uranus: Favors financial gain through inventions, discoveries, new enterprises, corporations, etc., and sometimes brings money unexpectedly, and through peculiar means. If the place of Uranus is much afflicted, beware of the conjunction as it may bring sudden and unlooked for losses, and cause financial fluctuations of a very spasmodic order. Both to Uranus or Saturn, the good aspects of Jupiter sometimes bring inheritance or legacies. Jupiter in the evil aspects of Uranus is a very uncertain influence and at this time money you expect may not come to you, or you may have strange losses or unexpected misfortune, in a financial way. The aspects of Jupiter to the superiors have these effects financially, but not in the degree that the aspects of the superiors to the body of

Jupiter do. At the same time while Jupiter squares or opposes Uranus, it is a poor time in which to take chances, speculate, or play in games of chance where money is involved. The same when Jupiter afflicts Mars.

Jupiter in conjunction or evil aspects to Neptune: This awakes the altruistic side of the nature, makes one charitable and more unselfish, and one is likely under this influence to give to charity, to spend money on the needy, and to generally be “easy” and readily bamboozled. It is a very spiritualizing influence, and often awakens the religious side of the nature to a great extent. It leads in the direction of a purer and more spiritual form of belief and worship and inclines one to do all he can to make practical the spirit of Christianity. This in superior horoscopes, of course. It’s chief danger, otherwise, is in its subjecting one to feelings of generosity and compassion which are apt to be misused and taken advantage of by others.

Chapter Seventeen

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET SATURN

As the chief instrument in the Universe of all the ills that flesh is heir to, Saturn easily takes the prize for making trouble, and his aspects, as he slowly wends his way around the horoscope, are always productive of some form of discipline, sorrow, and affliction.

Saturn in conjunction or evil aspects to the Sun: First of all, this has a debilitating effect upon the constitution, lowers the vitality, and makes one susceptible to any diseases to which one is subject. It is a depressing and devitalizing influence, and one of the chief causes of ill health. The transit of Saturn in the first house of the horoscope is similar in this respect, lowering the whole vibratory rate of the individual. Nothing goes just right under this condition (to the Sun) and everything slows down, is delayed, and meets with obstacles and hindrances. It not only affects your own health, but is also evil for the health and conditions of the males closely connected in your domestic or business life. Sometimes it brings about marked changes and even deaths. Everything is retarded at this time, and in order to accomplish anything, you have to make more effort than usual and you are easily discouraged, easily tired, and often misunderstood and blamed

for things for which you are really not responsible. It brings blame from superiors, and troubles in employment. It is wise at this time to take things about as they come and try not to force conditions at all. You cannot at this time be too careful whom you trust in a business way, and this is the very worst time in the world to initiate new ventures, start any important undertaking, or enter into any new relations with men. To a woman, it brings generally inharmony in the married life, trouble and misunderstanding with the husband, fiancé, or lover, and is a very bad condition under which to enter into relations with men, become engaged, married, or enter into any agreement whatsoever. New men that come into the life are likely to turn out disappointing in the end. If nothing more, it brings some broken friendship thru misunderstanding. The best advice in regard to this aspect is the following: First, guard the health—see that you don't get run down, anaemic, or below par. Second, don't force conditions, and when delays and obstacles spring up, don't try to sweep them away forcibly. Next, don't enter into partnership with a man or become engaged, married, or enter into intimate relations under this aspect, as he will bring you sorrow, responsibility, care, and worry, and perhaps deceive you in the bargain. He is likely to be married, or in some way tied up so that he can't in any case really belong to you. Next, avoid misunderstanding with the men

in your life at this time, and don't allow Saturn to make you too dissatisfied with existing conditions. This aspect does not necessarily affect the financial conditions although it may do so and will if Jupiter is also afflicted at the same time but usually the way it works is to make you dissatisfied with existing conditions, have trouble with men with whom you are associated, want to change your employ, and if married, sick and tired of your husband who won't be very magnetic, agreeable, or pleasing under this aspect, and it would be very easy to make a great mistake. As soon as the aspect passes, things will readjust themselves. If men treat you wrongly, or unjustly, this will straighten out when the aspect is passed. Until then take the line of least resistance, be patient and wait for the dawn.

Saturn in good aspect to the Sun: Is very unimportant, slightly restrictive, tends to moderation, prudence, caution, may serve to hold back otherwise unfavorable conditions, and is wholly negative.¹

Saturn in evil aspect or conjunction to the Moon: This is also evil for the health, but in a functional way, and is likely to bring on troubles such as are signified by the Moon's sign at birth, or other planets which afflict this point. It is depressing and discouraging in a personal way, unfavorable to the domestic

affairs, and productive of trouble with or through women. You may be anxious over the health or affairs of some woman intimate in your life at this time, such as the mother or wife, or else you may have trouble with or on account of some woman. Some woman may be jealous of you, take occasion to dislike you, treat you wrongfully, or abuse you, and at this time, no matters in which women are concerned in your life can turn out satisfactorily. You will be dissatisfied with your environment, either want to travel, or else do so, and it is always a heavy, dull, unhappy, or uninspired period from the private and personal standpoint. There will be something in the home or private life which is a source of anxiety or unhappiness. Some woman may pass out of your life, and sometimes it brings the death of the mother or wife. It is always a bad time for a married man, and at this time his wife will be sick, disagreeable, or a cause of worry and trouble. In the case of women, they will also have trouble with or through their own sex.

A man should not marry under this aspect, or enter into relations with women, as in this case they will in the end prove a burden, bring unhappiness into their life, and play a restricting part. It is also evil for dealings with the public, as for instance, in the case of a politician, who depends on the public vote. It brings unpopularity, and sometimes, in the case of the afflicted Moon, disgrace. The women who enter your life at this time are bound to disappoint you, cause you worry, unhappiness, and trouble.

Favorable aspect of Saturn to the Moon-. This is good for dealings with elderly women, tends to self-control, caution and prudence in private affairs and control of the senses. Not important.²

Saturn in conjunction or evil aspects to Mercury'. This is very disturbing to the

mentality and depressing too, and the memory and concentration are poor, while the tendency is to try very hard to overcome the obstacles, as Saturn is a plodder. It tends to pessimism, incredulity, and skepticism, unbelief, doubt, mental distress, and the careful examination of your mental outfit, with a view of throwing out whatever seems unfit. It causes people to change their point of view on many matters, to question matters they have held for a long time and during this aspect you are likely to be very uneasy, unhappy, rather subject to moods and the "blues." It tends to mental effort, hard study, and patient effort, which, however, results in little benefit unless there is some good aspect at the same time. At this time, avoid the law, litigation, disputes, and be careful of what you put in writing. Your correspondence is likely to be unsatisfactory, and it is well not to ask favors in writing, as you would be likely to put things in such a way that no good will

follow. This aspect sometimes brings important changes and journeys. It also tends towards trouble with the voice, and colds in the throat and chest.

Saturn here sometimes brings someone in the life whose views and opinions have a very detrimental and worrying effect upon you, and owing to whom you get unsettled. You are bound, under this aspect, to have cause for worry, depression, and fear, and some circumstance is sure to come up to cause it. It may bring very serious and harassing conditions where Mercury is much afflicted at birth. It is a poor time under which to undertake studies, writing, or speaking.

Saturn in good aspect to Mercury: Tends to mental continuity, patience, perseverance, careful and earnest study, and though quite negative, is good, but not very important.

Saturn in conjunction and evil aspects to Venus: This is one of the most disagreeable aspects in the whole range, but as you know, if the place of Venus is not afflicted, it will not work out in full force. It causes a person to be more sensitive, easily slighted, and more exacting with those around them than is usually the case, and you will be led to feel that people do not care for you as much as they should, etc. One expects too much of their friends, and when they are not able to meet your demands, you may feel hurt, become indifferent, and disconnect yourself from any of your old

friends and acquaintances. It causes you to be less magnetic in a personal way, less in the mood for enjoyment, and disposed to magnify and brood over slights, neglects which may not be at all intended, or are caused by circumstances which are beyond their control. Any feeling of jealousy should be avoided and if you feel that your friends are treating you with less consideration than usual, be sure, first of all, that you are not imagining two-thirds of it, and in the next place that your own attitude is not responsible for the remainder, and remember that the harboring of such thoughts is sure to drive away from you the very ones you wish most to hold.

This aspect seldom passes without some sorrow, whether in the form of death of someone dear to you, or the separation from someone you love. New friends made at this time are likely to bring more of sorrow or discipline into the life than pleasure or benefit. This aspect of Saturn to Venus is very unfavorable for social affairs, which do not go rightly, you will be disappointed in things not turning out pleasantly. The people you wish to meet will not be presented to you, or your plans for pleasure will be disappointed. It is an unhappy influence under which to play gaiety, amusement, or anything of the sort, and it is unwise to expect much from a vacation, a social engagement, or a visit, or a meeting between

friends, or a love affair, marriage, or anything which concerns the personal happiness under this condition. Do not marry, become engaged, or arrange for any important social meeting under this aspect. It is particularly bad for artists, actors, and musicians, as well as poets or all those whose work depends upon art, and at this time their work will not be satisfactory, they will not be magnetic, and their efforts are not likely to be crowned with success. It was owing to the square of Saturn to Augustus Thomas's Venus that he lately has such failures dramatically. It would be the height of folly to plan for a concert entertainment, reading dramatic work, or anything of that nature under this aspect, unless there are very strong contradictory aspects, as for instance, if Saturn were squaring one Venus, Jupiter trining another, and Uranus assisting another, (as there are four), and in all cases, it is very evil for Saturn to be afflicting the radical places, as this leaves more permanent results for evil. In cases where Jupiter were benefiting one, but Saturn afflicting the other, you might expect some good results but some setbacks and owing to Jupiter, the thing might be financially satisfactory, but owing to Saturn it would go off rather dully, and not be altogether a credit, and so of all the others. In the personal way, friends met under this influence are sure to be disappointing in some way and it is an evil omen unless powerfully contradicted.

Saturn to the favorable aspects of Venus- Is unimportant, tends to control the affections, regulate the emotions, form associations with older and more serious people, and is a purely negative influence. It does work in the direction of preventing unwise impulsive attachments, and adds to the power to withstand temptation, and set with caution and prudence in matters of the affections.

Saturn afflicting Mars or in conjunction: Is apt to make one feel abused, ill treated, and sometimes brings treachery and stirs up jealousy and enmity. One should avoid feeling bitter, revengeful, and avoid also cruelty, unfeeling acts, and unkindness, as well as an unforgiving spirit. It is apt to bring very trying experiences, to make one's work difficult or arduous, and often brings accidents especially if Mars is afflicted. The accidental condition is very important, and must not be overlooked.

People, under this aspect, are apt to feel abusive, very bitter toward the world, and express themselves rather harshly and vindictively.

The good aspect is not important, except as a restraining force and tends to the government and regulating of the impulses.

Saturn in conjunction or evil aspect to Jupiter: This aspect tends toward economy, prudence, caution, and circumspection of financial matters, in conjunction. It slows all financial affairs and often

brings in a period in which matters of this sort are delayed, hindered, and money is scarce, or expenses large. Usually, when anyone is in financial straits, Saturn is afflicting Jupiter. It does not tend so much to loss, as it does to expense. Small returns, delayed payments, etc. This is an unfavorable time for making investments, or for taking chances where money is concerned, and you will be sure to do the wrong thing. Everything at this time tends to lower the bank account. If you own property, it will need repairs, be an anxiety or decrease in value. It is a poor time for considering building or buying real estate. It is a poor time also for reaching for honors, getting involved with the law, and it is best at this time to be diplomatic, settle disputes out of court, and run no risks financially. It lessens one's faith in oneself and the Universe, and destroys confidence. During the period of Saturn's affliction to Jupiter, especially if the place of Jupiter is afflicted, a great deal of financial trouble is likely to result, and it is a good thing to have the two places of Jupiter well separated, so that Saturn cannot get at them at the same time. This aspect is unfavorable for the liver, makes it sluggish, and you should avoid biliousness and torpid liver.

In conjunction or where Jupiter is not afflicted, it is good for economy, real estate, matters of land and house property, and all affairs where returns are slow and sure.

The favorable aspect of Saturn to Jupiter favors care, thrift, saving, and caution in financial matters, and is also good for real estate, farms, house and land, mines, etc. This is a good aspect under which to invest in some slow, sure form of investment, and anything of the nature of Saturn.³

Notes

1. As might have been gathered already, Dr. Smith's use of the word *negative* indicates a type of negative gain, rather than meaning a bad aspect.
2. Dr. Smith makes further comments on these aspects at the end of chapter 19.
3. Note: The author gave no indication of his experience of the transit of Saturn to Uranus or Neptune.

Chapter Eighteen

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET URANOS

If the transits of Jupiter are the most beneficial and those of Saturn the most unfortunate, those of Uranus are the most important and interesting. Uranus is the developer, the bringer to the surface of the latent possibilities, and he augments the powers of the planets he aspects to the nth power.

If any point in the horoscope awaits development, there is nothing that will bring it out more than the transits of Uranus, and there is nothing that will afford experiences of the unusual type more readily than the conjunction [] adverse aspects of this planet. The greatest opportunities [] of life come, as a rule, from the conjunction, trine, and sextile of the Sun, and the periods in which this aspect rules [] always marked. If the Sun is aspected favorably, [] becomes very important. At the time of the founding of the [] Society, Uranus was on H. P. B.'s Sun, and [] it. She had the Sun opposite to Uranus radically, and [] crisis in her life.¹ The combined transit of Uranus is most powerful, irresistible, and destructive in evil aspect to the Sun, or other important parts of the horoscope.

This is a very important transit, and first of all, will bring people into the life who will afford the means of developing and utilizing the latent possibilities. It stirs up the ambitions and activities, awakens the latent energies, and supplies the means of enlarging the sphere of influence, and bringing the native in contact with larger affairs than he has heretofore met. It often connects one with governmental matters or corporations, and with inventions, untried enterprises, and undertakings of a unique and unusual sort. Anything may come of this aspect, and as it is in the nature of Uranus to bring the unexpected into the life, whatever happens is likely to be not in accord with preconceived plans, and one may expect the unexpected. Opportunities drop from the clouds.

This is a very constructive influence, and a very propitious time for having dealings with people of unusual ability, unique characters, and those whose interests are Universal, and who are concerned in large undertakings. It favors preferment, and the realization of hopes, wishes, and ambitions you may have been cherishing for years, and this aspect seldom passes without bringing opportunities of an unusual sort which should not be neglected, as they are likely to lead to large developments. The people with whom you will be thrown at this time will be powerful, well disposed, and especially those you might meet for the first time. Under this transit, people of large

calibre always enter the life, and it is for you to utilize them, and let them utilize you. It increases the powers, the ambitions, the nervous energies, and the efficiency, and it is likely to be a most active and interesting time generally.

To a woman, this aspect also presents great opportunities. It usually brings into the life men of power and prominence, and those who are interested in some man of parts.² It is highly fortunate for any man who might be in her life at the time, whether the father, husband, or otherwise, and indicates success, increased power and opportunity, and the possibility of their advancement and promotion. Under this influence, a woman is more magnetic, has more power over the men in her life, and is in every way more powerful for the time. It is impossible to say just what it will bring, or just what peculiar changes may take place in order to bring about the desired advancement, but it is always favorable and a very active influence. It is a good time for her to seek favors from men of wealth, power, and ability, and to further both her own interest and those of any man in her life. Any man coming into the life under this influence is likely to play a very important, helpful, and interesting part, and to appeal to the highest and best in her.

The Sun transited by the square or opposition of Uranus, or the conjunction when the Sun is afflicted at birth'. This is a very disturbing influence, and first of all leads to nervous diseases and complaints of an obscure type which the average physician finds it hard to diagnose or cure. Next, it arouses and intensifies the ambitions, makes a person restless, dissatisfied with old conditions, conventional ways of doing things, and turns the ambitions in the direction of untried, novel, and sometimes impracticable undertakings, mostly connected with inventions, discoveries, corporations, and the government, and usually the ideas one has regarding these things are unsafe, much too sanguine, too ahead of the times, and impracticable. One is likely to be thrown with people who encourage one in these ideas, and who are either misled, fraudulent, or else totally unwise. It is often a cause for a man to be very ill-advised and always he advocates the unpopular cause, the thing that can never be attained, and he feels inclined to force issues, to pit his individual will against the "world-will" which Uranus in a sense represents, and the result is bound to be disastrous. One is led to take unusual and extraordinary points of view, and to antagonize those with whom one works, associates, or his business dealings, and the usual result is the loss of friends, especially the safe and sane ones, and those that are really trustworthy and one is left the victim of the woozy, the dishonest, and the dissatisfied. It is impossible for a man under this aspect to feel satisfied with things and it is also impossible for things to be satisfactory. The aspect is, in its nature, confusing, worrying, leading to intense activity, usually misdirected and therefore productive of anxiety, great expenditure of energies, and nothing to show for it. Things seem to promise well to the last minute and then fall through without a moment's warning. Nothing can really be trusted that is not strictly along the lines of the greatest conservatism and nothing of a new, venturesome order ought to be taken up at this time. But that, of course, is just what will be taken up. It causes sudden deaths, separations, and misunderstandings with the family life or the business life, on the male side always. The father may die, the business partner die, or something unexpected and unlooked for usually eventuates at this time—always from the most unexpected quarter. In very well-balanced horoscopes, the aspect might pass without much disturbance, but where the Sun is at all afflicted, such will be the case, and it is quite the most radical and extreme of all the transits. The thing to do is not to allow oneself to make important changes under this influence, as it is

totally misleading, and any important change made under it is not likely to turn out well at all, but be disastrous.

In the case of a woman, it is very disturbing to the married life, usually bringing about misunderstanding, and sometimes death of the husband, but always complicating things, being evil for the business interests of the husband, and health and affairs of the man in the life generally, and usually brings some very strong influence into the life in the way of a man, who is a fascination in some way, a great temptation, and endanger the future interests. Under this aspect, women are led astray, leave their husbands, and do all sorts of foolish things, and if married, the husband at this time is likely to be a severe trial, and things go very wrong. Usually the time a man enters the life, is married, or at least has not "honorable intentions" and to the unmarried, it frequently brings a marriage or an engagement which ends disastrously, and the influence that comes in under this aspect does not last long. As a rule, it enters very suddenly and leaves as suddenly, and usually in some peculiar way, and the first meeting usually is more or less unconventional. It is the worst possible influence under which to become engaged, marry, or enter into relations with a man, and nothing really and permanently good can possibly come of it. The main things for both men and women are the following: Don't take up new schemes, or

if you do, don't expect things to turn out as you plan them. Don't play too far ahead, for Fate will overturn all your plans. Expect the unexpected. Don't trust new people. People that approach you in a business way, or with enterprises, are unreliable so watch out for yourself. Don't overdo or you will have a nervous breakdown. Avoid the impossible, the impractical, the new and visionary, and be as sane, safe, conservative, and humdrum as possible. Be prepared to accept the inevitable. (This is the aspect that destroyed Teddy Roosevelt.)

Uranus in conjunction, or evil aspect to the Moon or conjunction with afflicted Moon: This is as disturbing to a man as the Sun is to a woman. It upsets the domestic life, usually causes the ill health of the wife or mother or some woman in the life, and turns the private life upside down and he is lucky if there is not some form of scandal connected with it all. The wife is apt to have some nervous complaint, be ill, or in some way upset the serenity of the home. She may die suddenly. Some death is likely of a woman intimate in the life or home circle. Whatever happens will be unexpected, will come about suddenly, and all domestic plans are likely to be upset at this time. The influence of Uranus here is very disturbing to the personal life, and some woman is likely to come into the

life and play a very disturbing part, perhaps cause a lot of trouble, but be very fascinating, and the men under this aspect sometimes have love affairs or sometimes their wives do unusual things. It always brings some woman into the life who has a strong influence, comes suddenly, and departs as suddenly. It leads to travel sometimes, and domestic changes, and in all cases, a disordered state. The wife or mother is always a cause of worry or some other woman. It is unfavorable for dealings with the public, and sometimes brings on nervous complaints, as will be indicated by the Moon's sign, and the planets afflicting her.

Women have peculiar experiences through their own sex. Women usually have some strong female influence in their life, which is not for the best, and which is misleading and productive of disturbance and trouble and sometimes ends in sudden misunderstanding, jealousy, and separation. It is a great disturbance in the personal and private life.

Uranus in trine, sextile, or in conjunction—well aspected to the Moon: Tends to travel, and to interesting experiences, and brings women into the life through whom one gains mentally, gets a wider and more comprehensive viewpoint, and it has the general tendency to broaden the mental and spiritual horizon. This takes place through the help of women as a rule. Some one woman plays a very important and very helpful part in the life at this time, and “initiates” one, as it were, into bigger and better things. In 1901 with Uranus trine Moon, a woman who was herself noninterested, took upon herself to send me all books she could get hold of on Astrological sort, and “mothered” my mental development as best she could. I was so situated that I could not do this for myself at the time. She gave me absolute “carte

blanche” and through her, I was able to study and get well under way. This is the sort of thing this aspect does, and always, the influence is very disinterested, very humanitarian, unselfish, and acting along high and broad lines. It sometimes acts in a very occult manner, and always is for the uplifting, ennobling, and expanding of the mind and soul. It is splendid for the wife and mother, and for all women in your life at the time. Women with this transit are apt to become interested in clubs, large movements, and humanitarian interests, sometimes travel, and always expand and enlarge their horizon. It works, as Uranus always does, unexpectedly, in peculiar ways, and does strange things. It is rather a subjective aspect, unless other planets are in the aspect, such as Mars, Jupiter, or Venus, and one hardly realizes what is happening at the time. During the period I absorbed the bigger ideas of life, “ate” astrology and laid the

real foundation for all my future work, as well as made my “discovery.”

Uranus in conjunction to afflicted Mercury, or square or opposition Mercury: This is a very disturbing influence indeed, leading to nervous complications which arise largely from worried and confused mental conditions and too great excitability, and one's mental affairs are likely at this time to be most active, very disordered, and distracting. One's correspondence is awry, things happen unexpectedly and the tendency is in every way to throw the mind into the greatest activity and confusion. At this time one is apt to feel very much out of harmony with one's usual associates, one's accustomed ideas, and the mind is reaching out for new lines of thought, new experience and knowledge, and one feels restless, nervous, unsettled, and cranky. The judgment is not likely to be as conservative or safe as usual, the memory treacherous, and it is a poor time to make important decisions. The subconscious mind is more active, one may have unaccountable moods and sensations and some unusual experience along mental lines, and it will be very hard for one to stick to routine work. It is likely that one will take up with new and peculiar ideas and be led astray by ideas which are impractical and visionary. Avoid being sarcastic and disagreeable, too critical, and you may, by adopting too radical an attitude, and being too extreme in the

expression of your opinions, antagonize your associates, and have quarrels and misunderstand with the people you ordinarily talk and live with, and this may lead to your making unwise changes in regard to your friends and associations. It tends to travel, and some sort of change is sure to arrive. For it means mental expansion, and whatever is necessary to bring this about will take place. It tends to some form of notoriety through mental affairs, such as public speaking, lecturing, writing for the press, advertising, or some form of publicity, and may bring unpleasant criticism, or involve one in some controversy, legal complications, or some form of worry that will be very harassing and annoying. Avoid quarrels, disputes, the law, and try and be cautious in what you say and do, as you are most likely to express yourself unconventionally, be misunderstood, misquoted, libeled, and generally talked about for your “crazy notions,” etc. Be guarded as to what studies you take up, or what ideas you follow, as you are more than likely to be led astray.

In the case of the conjunction, a great deal of judgment is required, as is really the case with all conjunctions, and the meaning of the conjunction is, of course, great mental development and it will largely depend upon the aspects as to whether it will be beneficial or not. In

any case, new forms of thought and study and new mental experience of the most interesting sort will take place, one will try mental experiments, take up untried ideas, and meet with people who will give one the impetus for branching out. Important transits to Mercury are usually indicative of people coming into the life who associate with one, whether in connection with their business or their social life, on the mental plane, gives one the means of development, stimulates thought, and introduces one to new ideas. With the conjunction of Uranus to Mercury, at the present time, I have been constantly thrown with people who are presenting ideas of various sort to me, and who are talking about matters of occult nature, etc., and my mind is in just the state to take up some new line of thought, as well as the fact that I am doing a certain amount of speaking and getting a little publicity. You with Mercury conjuncting Uranus radically, always have a certain amount of this sort of thing. The tendency is to make the mental life more interesting, to develop the intellect, to afford new experience, to improve the expression and bring the mind to its fullest development. The conjunction favors writing, lecturing, publicity of all sorts, and travel. Some dominant influence is likely to be felt at this time, and some one may come who is able to instruct and assist the intellectual life.

Uranus trine and sextile Mercury: This is very favorable, means mental advancement, activity in the intellectual realm, new friends in research, and an added interest in science, ideas out of the common, and all things which tend to develop the mind. It quickens the abilities, causes one to learn and absorb readily, to be open to new ideas and the advice and counsel of others, and one readily adopts new plans and methods for the management of one's affairs, and is more responsive to suggestions than at other times. You are likely to be brought in contact with people of inventive, scientific, and progressive turn of mind and profit by association with them. Correspondence, writing, and publicity are favored, also legal affairs, the

press, scientific and literary matters, and it is a good time to advertise and gain publicity, and one, under this influence, says the right thing, and expresses themselves in the best way. Favorable for thinking up new ideas, inventions, dealings with the government in regard to patents, etc., and the management of anything that requires quick and able mental action. Good for lecturers, reporters, writers, journalists, and all those who use the pen largely in their pursuits. It usually brings some strong influence into the life in the way of a friend or associate who stimulates one's thought, awakens one's mind, and encourages one in

broadening and developing. It is a good time in which to take up new studies, and lines of thought, and in the case of people who are not intellectual, they usually adopt new and better methods of running their business, such as installing new systems, or bookkeeping, indexing, etc., so as to make their mental work easier. Or else, they may listen to the suggestions of some scientific person, and improve their way of living or working through some means of an advanced sort. Under this aspect, people are cleverer, more ingenious, active, alert, and alive than usual, and the mind works at its best.

Under the sextile of Uranus to Mercury, Uranus being in Sagittarius on the ascendant, I met one of the greatest friends of my life who assisted me in developing my mind, encouraged me in many ways, and by talking things of all works over with me, fertilized my intelligence. Uranus in Sagittarius was sextile my Mercury and conjunct his Mercury at the time of contact. We met on the deck of an ocean steamer and both recognized the other instantaneously as a kindred mind, and from that moment, for eleven years we were in constant touch. He having the Moon square Saturn, finally, when Uranus left him high and dry, slumped mentally and I went ahead of him so rapidly after a while, that I knew I had to leave him behind. He wouldn't interest me for a moment now, and he would think I was "buggy." But, under the temporary stimulus of Uranus, he was brilliant, fertile, original, and daring mentally, and for a time we made it warm for everyone. This was the time when I first woke up mentally, and was one of the means employed. The important transits to Mercury, especially of

Jupiter and Uranus usually bring as I have said, important influences into the life which act upon the mind, and cause development. The greatest friendship that can happen will come under a combination where Uranus transits to aspects of Mercury, showing mental contact, while Venus is also transited by Uranus or Jupiter, show emotional contact or perhaps Jupiter will be transiting Mercury by good aspect of conjunction and Uranus to good aspect of Venus. In other words, Jupiter and Uranus being the great opportunities, the time when they act in concert on Venus and Mercury are always times when you have the most interesting people in your life, and when you are associated with people who understand you, and who enter into your real life. As, for instance, when Uranus trines your Mercury and then proceeds to conjunct Venus, you will have such a friendship (Mercury [in] Libra and Venus [in] Aquarius) and one of the best and most happy as well as intense of your life. Something to live for, for it will

mean mental growth, a great deal of illumination, and since Venus is Aquarian, the stimulation of the aesthetic faculties, and a great deal of pleasure of the best sort. Congratulations!

Under the adverse aspects of Uranus to Mercury: Avoid legal matters as you will be the plague, and do all possible to keep the nervous system in good order. Avoid sudden changes which are “notional” and be guided by best judgment. Don’t trust new ideas, and if you are interested by brilliant people, admire the brilliance, and take it for what it is worth.

Uranus conjunction, trine, and sextile Venus or the well-aspected conjunction: This is one of the most important of influences socially and personally and makes one very magnetic, disposed to be more conventional than usual in matters of social life, friendship, and affection, especially in the case of the conjunction, and attentive to matters of dress, personal attractiveness, and culture. The tendency is to develop the social side of the life to its utmost, to broaden the acquaintance, to break away from a narrow or limited environment, and there is a strong desire for companionship, love, and sympathy, and a strong personal interest. This usually comes in the form of someone who plays a very fascinating part in the life, and it all depends upon the horoscope as to whether it will be a very conventional “affair” or a friendship or love affair of the very highest type. In a great many cases, this brings in the greatest and most tremendous love of

the whole life, and especially if, at the same time, there be powerful aspects to Venus by direction, especially of the Sun, or Mars, so that Uranus in aspecting Venus, also gets the aspect of other planets. It is also very fortunate to have, either radically or at this time the conjunction, trine, or sextile of Mercury to Venus, so that both are included in the aspect, when great mental as well as emotional and aesthetic development may be expected, and a great deal of pleasure, happiness, and intercourse of the most interesting and profitable sort. The person who comes into the life under this aspect understands and seems to get more in touch with you than is ordinarily the case, and the contact of Uranus with Venus keys up the emotions, the aesthetic sentiments, and the social feelings to the utmost, so that you are more magnetic, more in the mood for pleasure, more able to take advantage of a great friendship, than would ordinarily be the case. In less advanced horoscopes, this will bring unusual experience, great happiness, a very unconventional period of social life, and tend toward experiences and contact with people that is beyond the power of the person to either control, appreciate, or

live up to, and as soon as the aspect dies out, they will be left behind. It is the greatest time for forming interesting attachments that may be made to last out a lifetime, but the tendency of Uranus is to bring the unexpected, and the hero or heroine of the occasion is quite likely to arrive suddenly, unexpectedly, and somewhat unconventionally “love at first sight” perhaps, and in any case instant recognition, the feeling that you have known the person before, or some peculiar and marked psychic or intuitive incident in connection with the meeting. They “come to a climax” swiftly as a rule, the friendship progressing by leaps and bounds, and the mutual attraction is intense, but not feverish in the case of the sextile or trine. The conjunction is overpowering and unless Venus is well protected by Jupiter, Saturn, or other favorable aspects, the person is likely to act unwisely, break all the conventions and let their emotional nature play the deuce with them. It is a great period, and worth living for. The transit of Uranus over your Aquarian Venus will be a splendid example, and you ought to get the very best of experiences, with little to regret out of it, as Venus is so well placed in this sign, and not afflicted. Angular, too. You are lucky. Then Mercury is trine also.

That’s worth going through years of waiting for, and aeons of boredom. You’ll have the time of your life in the nicest of ways, and with the very nicest of persons. You had better begin to prepare for it.

The conjunction, trine, and sextile of Uranus is very fortunate for artistic matters of all sorts, brings great opportunities to artists, musicians, and actors, and all those who make their living through art in any form at all, and means the utmost development of their talent and abilities, and the opportunity to “come out.” In horoscopes of people who are artists, this is the transit to look for, and the first aspect by sextile, trine or conjunction to Venus is likely to bring them to the front. The same in regard to literary people, Uranus transiting Mercury. It usually brings favors, gifts, pleasure, increase of social activity,

new friends, and all that makes life worth while from this standpoint.

The square, opposition, and conjunction of afflicted Uranus to Venus is also interesting, unconventional, and very powerful in its effect upon the emotional nature, being even more marked than the trine or sextile, and stirring up the affections to a feverish degree, causing the person to break all bonds, conventions, and ordinary limitations, and undergo a period of bohemianism, freedom, and oftentimes an “affair” which may bring some notoriety, or provoke Mrs. Grundy to action. It is a time when

people should try and be guided by common sense and discretion, not let their feelings get away with them too far and be a little reasonable in the demonstration of their emotions. It brings someone into the life suddenly and unexpectedly, as a rule, who is fascinating, clever, talented, and who arouses the love nature to the utmost, and people met under this influence are apt to go out of the life as suddenly as they came in. Under this influence, old friends disappear, die, or are separated from one, or else one gets out of patience with their old-fashioned way of doing things, their frowning and solemn respectability and determines to go the pace. Afflicted Venuses behave very giddily, their hair curls up, their complexion blots, and their costume gets posterized. Old maids take courses in osculation, exercise the eyes, and walk around the flatiron three times every windy day. Married ladies weary of the stale wedding cake, and indulge in Plato, and Eleanor Glyn—Whoops my dear!

The safest course is not to take seriously anyone who comes bounding into your aura about this time—they will fascinate but they will soon disappear, and “leave the wreck behind,” and woe to the maiden whose tendrils have curled around this broken reed, for the ax of the woodman will sever her twigs. Nothing satisfactory, permanent, or in any way productive of lasting happiness comes out of this aspect, and it is disruptive to the social life of the individual and all to no purpose. It leaves them with broken friendships, and old shrines deserted, and all for a passing shadow, that only irritated and upset them, and gave them no real happiness. People are prone to behave rather foolishly under this aspect, and it takes a very steady Venus to withstand it. The worst of it is that it inclines people to do things that bring notoriety, criticism, and scandal, and they seem to desire to be talked about, and to aid their idiocy as thoroughly as possible.

Uranus transiting evil aspects or conjunction Mars: This is dangerous and

indicates recklessness, want of caution and prudence, the disposition to run into danger, to take risks, and to act upon sudden and mad impulses, to do things for love of adventure, love of actual danger, and regardless of common sense. It causes people to do things which they would at other times refrain from in the way of running into experiences of the dangerous sort, taking their life into their hands, etc., if the horoscope admits of all this, and under this influence they are likely to do unusual and foolhardy things. It, therefore, leads to accidents and mishaps and all sorts of physical hurts. Under the aspect of Uranus square Mars in Pisces, I had a nasty accident to my foot. It stirs up the initiative, the

element of adventure, of courage, and of physical activity, and gives love of excitement, and may make the more aggressive, quarrelsome, positive and cause the temper to be quick, peculiar and sometimes uncontrollable for the time being, where Mars is afflicted at birth.

The good aspects to Mars bring out the more constructive side of this influence, giving boldness, the ability to do reckless things without danger, and run into experiences without mishap. Where Mars is prominent and well aspected, it may bring fame or notoriety through courage, war, surgery, acts of bravery, or physical recklessness and adventure.

Uranus transiting evil aspects of Jupiter and afflicted conjunction: This is a very treacherous influence financially, leading to risks of all sorts, speculation, games of chance, and consequent losses. At this time, one is approached by schemes and schemers, and it is dangerous to listen to them. Take no chances where money is concerned, or you will surely lose. It brings the most promising schemes and opportunities which may appear quite practical, but are apt to “peter out.” It sometimes causes one to make quite large sums of money in some unusual way, and then to have it all swept away so quickly that you hardly know you have had it. Often a bank president and people who have money in trust at these times speculate with money that is not theirs and in the hope of making large winnings but lose and are disgraced. It is an evil time for going to law, changing investments, buying or

selling property, reaching out for new honors, and whatever is done in this way under this aspect nearly always turns out unfortunate. The thing to do is to be as conservative as possible in money matters, and take no chances. Uranus stirs up the ambitions and causes one to want to accomplish wonders financially, but his impulses in the bad aspects are misleading and treacherous. He also sometimes stirs up the religious instincts and awakens the more humanitarian feelings, but in these aspects, inclines to fanaticism, unpractical schemes, and unreliable feelings.

Uranus in good aspect to Jupiter: This develops the spiritual powers, adds to the wish and the power to do others good, and is an inspiring influence. It broadens the sympathies and causes people to be less selfish in the attitude towards mankind generally, more generous and kind. It is a spiritual aspect and in horoscopes that favor that sort of thing it is quite likely to have marked effect. But in a very subtle way. It is a delicate influence and may bring someone into the life who aids in bringing about some change for the better in the character and this may take place through books, or in some nonpersonal way.

The transit of Uranus in aspect to Neptune works largely on the imaginative plane and not requiring actual physical manifestation. Whatever does take place is likely to be very personal and perhaps very occult, and the outer world may never know it, but they will be likely to realize that some change has taken place.

Notes

1. A few words in the paragraph of the manuscript describing Uranus' aspects to the Sun are illegible, evidently due to smudging.
2. Note: The word *parts* is a nineteenthcentury idiom meaning "importance."

Chapter Nineteen

THE TRANSITS OF THE PLANET NEPTINE

Neptune aspecting the Moon is likely to bring some woman into the life who either has an unfavorable influence morally or who leads one into unpractical lines of thought, manages to give one the wrong viewpoint, or interests one in matters which afterwards prove misleading. Sometimes the wife or mother is affected peculiarly, and strange experiences come through them, or to them. It encourages psychic phases, such as clairvoyance and trance, may give rise to some form of indulgence and is a misleading influence. *The good aspects* will, as a rule, bring some influence into the life that will prove to be uplifting and expanding, and during the transit one should benefit in some rather unusual or peculiar and subtle way, through some woman. The good aspect favors higher thought and meditation, a deeper understanding of the more hidden laws of the Universe and may be a means of inspiration and religious experience. All depends upon the horoscope.

Neptune afflicting Mercury leads to false ideas, study along impractical and unprofitable lines, and one is apt to be deceived, led astray, and waste a good deal of time and thought to no purpose. It tends to meditation, inactivity,

desire for strange ideas and experiences, interest in uncommon books and subjects, and one may be associated with some person of strange mentality who temporarily influences one to take up ideas and lines of thought which afterwards prove useless. It tends to deception, fraud, peculiar experiences through correspondence, and is a very woozy aspect. Tends in the direction of indulgence and immorality in such horoscopes, and leads the mind in the direction of dangerous ideas and practices.

The favorable aspect leads to contemplation, meditation, study in higher things, spiritualism, mysticism, etc., and one may, at this time, gain much unusual information and insight.

The adverse aspect to Venus of Neptune leads to deceptive love affairs where one imagines they are in love, and are really not, or where one imagines peculiar circumstances connected with the whole affair. It is a dangerous aspect, and may associate one temporarily with someone who arouses the emotions to a very great degree, and leads to peculiar mysterious and unique experiences. It is an aspect of masquerade, and it does not do to have a love affair that takes place under it. You are to be deceived and most of it will be in the mind. It tends in the direction of romance, sentiment, and a most sensuous state, and may lead to, in some cases, very unwise action.

The good aspect to Venus tends to friendships and attractions of a very spiritual order, where the bond is psychic and intangible and gives the highest order of spiritualized affection. Whoever it is that is in the life at this time, is likely to play upon the higher nature and call out the most unselfish and impersonal side of the affections, and there will be a peculiar state of exaltation in regard to it. It brings often a very lofty refining influence.

The transits of Neptune are very subtle, working on the psychic plane, mostly, and sometimes with apparently no effect but they must be used with discretion. In horoscopes that are not at all sensitive, Neptune cannot do much; the idea being that amid the vibrations of positive planets like Mars and Jupiter the very evanescent vibrations of Neptune are lost to sight at least and can do no more than add an impervious something to the combination.

Neptune in evil aspect to the Sun or afflicted conjunction: A peculiar and disintegrating influence, tending to destroy the willpower, acting directly upon the psychic and emotional nature, and sometimes subjecting people to strange and inexplicable lines of action the motive of which will always be the desire to sacrifice oneself for indulgence to or for others. In totally sensual and selfish horoscopes, the more the desire for indulgence of a highly exotic and emotional type. In horoscopes where the

tendency is shown, they may take to drugs, indulge in fainting trance or coma, and undergo symptoms of obscure sort. The best sort of treatment usually is complete change of environment and also complete change of associates—someone may be vampirizing them and it may be the one they are most fond of. It tends to forms of activity which are romantically alluring, dangerous either to the health, real interests, or incompatible with common sense, involving selfsacrifice, obliteration of the personality, and the submerging of oneself in some idea and the sort of thing, for example that Father Damion did—going among the lepers. It may bring about a temporary psychic phase and under such cases—anaemia. It may bring temporary bad health so as to result in deviltry, weakness, and overstrain. The advice is to avoid the weird, romantic, exotic, erotic, and try to cultivate sane thoughts, keep with sane people, and be as normal as you can. This transit is likely to throw you into association with people (men) who are rather queer and don't be influenced by them. Keep the health up to par, avoid any unusual form of indulgence and you will be all right. If depleted, tired, or nervous, take a few days change of surroundings, and get right away from people you are habitually related to, even if you don't like to do so.

Vampirization is a very common thing under this aspect. Women may have peculiar experiences with men, or their husbands, fathers, fiances, or very good friends. May either suffer from some illness or undergo unusual experiences, or there may be something extraordinary in their relations with them at this time. Whatever it is, it will be largely the work of the imagination and after it is all over they will see that they have been deceived. Neptune is a defrauder.

The favorable aspect to the Sun is entirely to subtle and purely spiritual or psychic to pay much attention to in practical notes of this sort and you will have to watch very closely to detect its effect. It ought to be entirely on the higher altruistic plane, and ought to lead to actions and aims

of a very unselfish sort, and for the time, the person may have some spiritual experience, develop some psychic phase, or be actuated by some very unusually lofty sentiment, charitable, and brings unexpected benefits through inventions or untried and novel enterprises, and is a propitious time for starting undertakings in which chance plays a part, matters connected with the governments, corporations, and in general where the interests of many people are involved. It sometimes brings money from unusual and unexpected sources and is a good time to invest. It is a period of gain and financial expansion, and when any opportunities of a financial

sort should be looked into, and taken advantage of and opportunities which may not at first appear favorable are likely to turn out so later. It is wise to take chances under this aspect, provided there are not very strong and contradictory aspects, and it is by branching out, being unconventional and taking a certain amount of risk that the real benefits of this aspect will appear.

Neptune afflicting Jupiter warns against bubble schemes, dishonesty, fraud, people imposing on your good nature, generosity, getting money from you on false pretense, and you should not allow your sympathies and feelings to sway you in a financial way. Under this aspect, the sympathies the altruism and the higher religious feelings and emotions are called into play, and those who come in contact with you realize that you are so actuated and will be ready to take advantage of you and assist you to part with your property, which you will delight in doing under this influence. You will feel temporarily that it is your duty to be unselfish, help the helpless to be still more helpless, increase the bread line, repopulate the park benches, and put an attractive premium on idleness, and if you live up to the opportunities of the aspect, you will have a mendicant waiting for you on every corner, three pious frauds on the doorstep, several missionaries in the parlor and when you go to church, the usher will welcome you with a fat smile. In the end your finances will have fled and you will realize the text "Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven, and his righteousness, and all these

things shall be taken away from you." So the thing to do is to cultivate a stern and austere appearance and when you see the wily tear-extractor heading your way, scowl like Satan, subdue your welling emotions, and close up your bowels of compassion lest they drain you dry. It's a poor policy to buy emotional exaltations from the street vendors, go to a Tristan like a decent body and get a good sound dollar's worth of dole or attend a revival meeting, have a real nice sloppy seance with a neighboring medium, or do anything but be made a bally fool of on the public streets. Take just enough change with you for carfare, one nut sundae, and a package of hairpins, and put your excess wealth in the porcelain pig on the mantle.

On the other hand, under the favorable aspects of the beautiful Neptune, you may safely open up and allow your feelings leeway, give your temperament an airing and indulge in a spirituality without any fear. This aspect develops the unselfish sentiments without making a darn fool of you and leads to altruism of the sensible sort. You may have some profitable and special benefits which will come your way which are unusual and for which you have done nothing. I can't

be certain for I have had Neptune trining Jupiter and I don't think anything remarkable has happened.

Transits Summarized: The motion of the Moon is irregular, sometimes less than 12 degrees per day, and sometimes over 15 degrees. At 12 degrees per day we have a method which denotes one year of life. Her motion is the same as that of the planet Saturn by transit, or, to make it plainer, say at ten days after birth, the Moon is in Taurus 10 degrees and at eleven days after birth in Taurus 22 degrees, her motion would then be 12 degrees for the twenty-four hours, hence the Moon's motion would then be 12 degrees for the twenty-four hours, which would be 12 degrees per year or the same motion, without a few minutes, as Saturn by transit.

Now in long periods of trouble, grief or losses, you will almost invariably find the place of the Moon by local motion,¹ either in conjunction, square, or opposition to Saturn by transit; that is, suppose the place of the Moon to be in Taurus you will find that Saturn is by transit either in Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, or Aquarius, and so every good direction of the Moon is destroyed by the evil transit of excitement of Saturn and all evil aspects that she may form are excited by Saturn into action, but if the Moon be swift in motion, say 14 or 15 degrees per day, she will pass the transit of Saturn in two or three years, and then the

unfortunate time will be over; but where you find the Moon by direction in bad aspect of Saturn by transit and the motion of the Moon about 12 degrees per day, then the man or woman will have a long spell of bad luck, and have a hard fight against fate, and if the directions be heavy or numerous it may bring about the total ruin of the native, but look to the nativity for the intensity, length, and extent of the evil will depend upon the disposition of the planets at birth.

Again have regard to the place of Uranus by transit, for when the Moon arrives by local motion to the conjunction or opposition of that place or even the square—the former are most powerful. Then a most unsettled time will occur, when the mind is in constant dread of impending evil, rather supposed evil, restlessness, and annoyances.

If the nativity shows it, the native may travel or leave his native land. The motion of Uranus by transit is only about 4 degrees a year and as the Moon's least motion is almost 12 degrees, this evil is not of very long continuance. This point is decided by the working of the directions.

Now the planets Jupiter and Mars in their exciting are very transitory, their motions being very swift at times, however, and they are stationary in certain

places which may produce events of longer duration. Of this you must judge for yourself. If both planets are direct, the excitement will soon be past, and the event must soon happen. Hence sudden events both good and bad are caused by the transit of the two planets over or in aspect to the place of direction.

Periods of success may be judged by the position of the Moon and Saturn chiefly.

When Saturn by transit is in sextile or trine to the place of the Moon by local motion it is good provided the Moon does not run against Uranus. A lull in success will occur and for a certain time the individual's affairs will be upside down.

The evil transit of Uranus to the Moon does not cause so much loss of money as it does perpetual worry and excitement. A dread of evil about to happen is present. If the veil is likely to operate on the private affairs, which may be learned from the nativity, the effect will be serious, leading to discord, jealousy, separation, adultery, loss, change of employment. The native will act rashly without thought or reason.

Now respecting the Sun, he is very important in every nativity and rules chiefly the life and honor of a man. His motion is 1 degree per day, sometimes a minute more and sometimes a little less. His average motion per day is about 1 degree, which, in our method of reckoning, would be 1 degree per year. Hence, the transits of all the planets to the place of the solar

directions are soon past as no planet moves at less than 2 degrees per year. Notice the periods when Saturn by transit forms the conjunction or other bad aspects of the Sun by local motion and if a bad solar direction happens about the same time, heavy losses, ill health, loss of honor and credit will follow—but Uranus is the chief destroyer of credit. When the Sun and Uranus are in bad aspect, either by direction or transit there being a bad solar direction to some other planet at the same time, much trouble will pour in upon the native affecting his honor and credit. If Saturn afflicts the Moon at the same time, much misfortune will occur and probably result in the ruin of the native.

When the Sun and Moon are both afflicted in a nativity, it is a very dangerous time for the health and welfare of the native. Death frequently occurs at such a time.

If the nativity does not show an accident, do not judge one. Let the directions be what they will, the same with sickness, for if the nativity be a healthy one it will take much stronger directions to produce sickness than if it is unhealthy.

The house in which the transitory planet is placed, for instance, Saturn afflicting the Moon from the ascendant, he predisposes to a grave and melancholy state of mind, grief, and sorrow and

denotes damage by the individual's own acts, or thru errors in judgment.

If from the second house, it will affect his money, property, or even his liberty, and so on with the other houses, because the excitement comes from a certain house and the evil will arise by or thru something ruled or signified by that house. As the transits of planets over the places of the planets at birth or the luminaries, they signify nothing except when a direction occurs at the same time. But transits of planets thru different houses in the same nativity are very important. Uranus by transiting the Midheaven and the Moon by direct conjunction, square, or opposition, produces worry and trouble in business, perpetual alarm, affliction to individual's mother. But if Uranus were in the eleventh, evil would come from friends or something ruled by that house, and the same with the other houses.

The Moon as noted moves very fast, and in many cases before she is clear on one aspect or direction she is applying to another. This is why the positions of the planets by transit have such potent effects.

I will here mention that there are what I call unimportant nativities, or such wherein the planets are mostly cadent, and in common signs. In such cases the direction must be very potent to produce any great results, and many small directions will pass without being observed.

The former will be chiefly obscure per-

sons, such as are in the employ of others, but if you find the planets in cardinal signs and angular, then every direction that is excited to action will tell in a marked degree and produce events prominent and observable and such persons will generally be noted characters or masters and employers of men, etc.

Observe also the Moon when it is slow in motion by direction for this is not good for success and gain. The Moon slow in motion in a nativity is also unfavorable. Swift in motion signifies success, activity, and progress in general. Hence, when Saturn afflicts the Moon as mentioned, and the Moon is slow in motion, it is very bad, but if the Moon is swift, the evil is not so great. If the relations of the Moon are swift, the evil is not so great. If the relations of the Moon and Saturn are of a benign nature, and she swift in motion it is very good, but if slow, the benefit will not be so great.

Saturn rising in any nativity gives some impediment in the speech, more especially if he be in Aries, Taurus, Cancer, Leo, Scorpio, Capricorn, or Pisces, and Mercury at the time being in evil aspect will cause the native to stammer and he will be of a very nervous, suspicious temperament and can easily be overcome by mesmerism.

By looking steadily at the native he will be unable to speak at all, unless with

determined effort, that shakes the whole frame. If Mars should be in aspect to Saturn it will improve the speech and one will stutter less, but will talk fast and lisp badly. It is a curious fact that persons with Saturn rising have very round tongues. That is, the end of the tongue is round and not pointed whereas the Mercurial and Lunar persons have sharp pointed tongues and can articulate very clearly and fluently. If Mercury be in Sagittarius or Pisces, or even Cancer and rising and not in any aspect to Saturn, the native will be a great talker upon whose words not a shadow of dependence can be placed.

Venus and Saturn in conjunction, square, or opposition makes persons with a depraved taste and the practice of bad and unnatural habits. They are much attached to places and persons and have very keen feelings. Such persons suffer disappointment in love, sometimes committing suicide, and if Mercury be afflicted by Saturn they will be much given to shed tears and will cry and weep bitterly upon slight provocation.

Note

1. In other words, by progression.

Chapter Twenty

THE TRANSITS OF THE PEANET PLUTO

Pluto rules the transforming urges. It represents the urge to bring hidden conditions to the surface so that they may be regenerated into a new source of power. Pluto signifies those who work beneath the surface in some way, such as miners, psychologists, and those whose work deals with death or refuse. The action of Pluto is to isolate, undermine, transmute, reinforce, intensify, purge, or destroy. Pluto is also reputed to deal with karma, institutions, and police activity. Its transits tend to affect whole generations and the masses as well as individuals in whose chart it holds some prominence through position and planetary links.

Pluto is the natural ruler of Scorpio, the sign of regeneration. It corresponds to the eighth house of death and rebirth situations. It is frequently feared or misunderstood and inaccurately labeled as bringing about unwanted changes.

The subtle power attributed to Pluto is not to be underestimated. For example, while Scorpion individuals may or may not appear to be physically strong, they have the greatest of physical strength and can carry more than the usual ratio of weight in respect to their own

body weight. This is due to the combination of Pluto with the Sun through the sign. Pluto provides the stamina to complete the most difficult tasks. With Pluto as an assisting agent, one is afforded the necessary strength to immediately begin rebuilding whatever has crumbled, which is why such individuals are often sought out in crisis situations. This is the nature of Pluto that is likened to the phoenix rising from its ashes. Wherever Pluto is found, it signifies both the need for and an abundance of personal power. The aspects to it indicate areas and relationships that can be improved by drawing upon a deep source of regenerative power, though the adverse aspects may indicate challenges in bringing this about.

For instance, an opposition from Pluto to the Sun may ultimately provide a line of assistance to the accomplishment of major goals and fulfilling the needs of the individual ego. However, if too much force is used in achieving ends, as akin to Pluto, it may appear that the individual is working at cross-purposes against the very people whose support is most crucial. The individual must become conscious of other strong egos and that to step on others with disregard only results in personal failure.

Transiting Pluto's house position shows where one has an opportunity to improve or upgrade a situation. Pluto gives both the urge and the stamina required for eliminating unwanted elements. Thus, a vacuum is created, ushering in a more sat-

isfactory set of circumstances. With Pluto's transits and the important aspects it forms, it is often a good idea to assess the house position and examine one's personal feelings about the area. If there is already dissatisfaction or a brewing problem, it is likely the issue that will be isolated and brought to the surface. By identifying the issue, one is more likely to be the active agent toward change and less likely to resist changing conditions. Pluto will help to purge, cleanse, and bring about a healthier state of affairs.

Due to the fear and timidity associated with giving up something without a replacement guarantee, we usually try to hold on to whatever we have, ideal or not. This is the source of Plutonian problems. The processes of Pluto are slow, and elimination is always the first element. With Pluto, the superficial is eliminated, things are dug up, sifted through, and rearranged in a new and more workable platform from which to grow as an individual. Pluto often corresponds with new enterprise, similar to Mars' influence. The difference with Pluto is that something no longer useful must be eliminated before the new cycle of experience can take place.

Here's an example of how Pluto works when we resist change: A woman with a

sixth-house Solar Return Pluto had been dissatisfied with her job for several months. Due to a number of changes in policies and management, she no longer got the gratification she once did from her work. At the same time, she had an inner calling to start her own business, which could require several months without an income. Her husband made enough money that she could actually afford to do this, but her fear of change held her back from initiating the change. Her resistance to go after what she needed and wanted, symbolized by Pluto in the position it held, caused the situation to become intensified, apparently, by outside forces. Now, Pluto would need to assist her. Another management change took place and she was transferred to an area she disliked. The long commute to and from work was no longer acceptable. She felt betrayed after her long dedication to the job, and finally turned in her resignation with resentment. Her last few weeks on the job were quite miserable as she hung on to the mistaken belief that she had been forced into leaving. It was her underlying need for change in the first place that made things transpire as they did, bringing about event that seemed to “happen to her.”

Eventually, things worked out to her complete satisfaction and she started her personal project to find gratification that was unsurpassed. Her work environment and job itself had been completely transformed. All of these things were reflected in the sixth-house position of Pluto.

Pluto is really working for us and whatever is eliminated is necessary for psychological growth. If we cannot take necessary steps on our own, the processes of the cosmos will nudge us gently at first and then more forcefully. In the previous example, it is clear that the desire for change originated within the individual. It is not always so easy to see this within ourselves at the onset of the process, as indeed, it wasn't for this woman. If she had validated her needs and initiated the process, she could have accomplished exactly the same result without

experiencing resentment or the feeling of being out of control of her life. Pluto generally works to bring us what we need, even when it isn't something we necessarily want.

Pluto can be the agent of either the most constructive or the most destructive actions. The worst of Pluto is reflected in those who attempt to manipulate, to dictate, and control everything and everyone around them. They want to see revenge and are jealous to the nth degree. They blame others for all their own problems and see themselves as victims. Soon, they determine that in order not to become a victim, they must become the executioner. Criminal activity is associated with Pluto and it is linked to rape,

kidnapping, and crimes in which a brute force of strength is used against an already weaker victim.

The following house positions and aspects formed by Pluto may be applied not only to Pluto in the return charts, but also to transiting Pluto, as well as aspects formed in the progressed chart. Pluto's house position usually points to an area where some degree of compulsion or obsession can be noted. This may be connected with a person or a department of life governed by the house. It also shows where an element will be exposed and brought to the surface so that elimination and cleansing can usher in a renewed and healthier state of affairs.

First House: A dynamic placement of Pluto, the first-house position is similar to having it strongly configured with the Sun. One may actually experience a feeling of new or increased physical strength and stamina along with an inner conviction that it is time to reach for that which is most wanted. This position usually coincides with a strong desire for change and the distinct feeling that a change is somewhat overdue. Transformations taking place are of a very personal nature and usually self-initiated. Since the first house rules personal attitudes, this position suggests experiences that will intensify and transform one's unique view of the world. There is no interest in the superficial. These elements are erased from the personality and one's response is to the deep or meaningful aspects of life and in

relationships with others. One has the ability to control the personal image presented and the opportunity to make a powerful personal statement. Self-sufficiency is demonstrated and ambitions are pursued with determination. This newfound personal power must be used in a way that does not cause others to feel threatened.

There will undoubtedly be changes in the physical appearance and demeanor, whether cosmetic or otherwise, and the position sometimes corresponds with an air of sexuality. Changes of a personal nature will be in connection to the house ruled by Pluto. Occasionally, this position of Pluto coincides with a medical surgery, but other configurations would need to concur.

Second House: On a material level, Pluto in the second house of resources indicates new conditions relating to the ownership of property. This might involve financial security and income and may correspond with the need to fight for one's rightful ownership of possessions or property. Financial reorganizations or restructuring of the budget are possibilities since the position sometimes coincides with the significant increase or decrease of available resources. This theme extends to include other valuables or portable property. Important purchases may be made

which contribute to a higher standard of living. One particular possession may increase in personal value, which is likely to be far greater than the monetary value. One may become more possessive or make a purchase that has some deep significance. If one has been held back in the past from getting something deeply desired, it will be with great satisfaction that the odds will now be defied. Some isolated piece of property may require replacement by its breakdown or destruction. It is certain that the earnings and available resources will undergo a process of rebirth. In any event, the required stamina is available to deal with any needed changes involving values and resources. Look to the house ruled by Pluto to determine the area of expenditures or gain.

The second house also relates to values in general. This house position of Pluto frequently corresponds to significant changes in other departments of life, which are really a reflection of changing values. Again, the house ruled by Pluto will offer an explanation to these changing values.

Third House: The third house governs the daily environment and routine contacts. With Pluto here, these important and fundamental elements of one's daily life are likely to undergo significant alterations and renewal. Such changes could take place as a result of a move into a new neighborhood, which brings one into contact with different people and requires the familiarization with new surroundings. Following this theme a step further, the places frequented for shopping and the form of transportation used to get around are also factors that are subject to change. Vehicles may break down or be replaced or both. A different style of transportation may be used. Everyday-around-town affairs brings one into contact with a completely new set of people and circumstances. Events that

occur during short trips could prove to be of significance or someone with whom there is daily contact could turn out to be an agent for change. Such a person could open the door for a transformation in one's life.

The third house also rules communications. The personal style of expression and even the method of communication may be replaced forever. Significant issues may be dealt with through paperwork, agreements, and discussions. This may revolve around taxes, insurance, or wills, as these concerns become a priority. Relationships with siblings or neighbors may undergo some fundamental and significant changes. The house ruled by Pluto will supply a link to these third-house changes. For example, if it is the second, there may be the purchase of a new car. If the fifth, one's children might begin school or change schools.

Fourth House: This is a powerful position for Pluto when considering that the

fourth house relates to the way we see ourselves for who we really are as opposed to the way others see us. There is an urge to redevelop personal credibility. The fourth house rules one's inner security and the foundation upon which one stands. Past roots, family structure, and the actual domicile determine the durability of this security to some degree. This very foundation will be reinvigorated, resulting in the establishment of a stronger foothold and deeper personal convictions by the end of the process.

This position may signify intense transformations occurring within the home or family circle. On a material level, there may be damage or breakdowns in the home that call for renovations. This is especially likely to involve pipes and plumbing. Pluto calls for getting beneath the surface and for eliminating that which is no longer needed. One may simultaneously do a home inventory while ridding the home of clutter and unwanted items. Some activity along this line would be an excellent and constructive use for these Plutonian energies.

Reorganization of the family structure might be underway, with someone either entering or leaving the family circle. Manipulation or power struggles among family members are not out of the question. An outside individual could be the agent for transforming events, which greatly affects the whole family. Since the fourth rules the most nurturing parent, processes occurring may contribute to gaining new understanding in these relationships. Check the house ruled by Pluto for a connecting link.

Fifth House: With Pluto in the fifth, ruling the creative expression of the ego, one

may meet challenges in a uniquely creative and productive way. This period may see some of the greatest work of an artistic nature blooming and gaining recognition. A possible danger with this position of Pluto is that if one allows the personal self-expression to be blocked, repercussions may affect physical vitality. Generally, powerful energies lie beneath a desire to create an extension of the self and one does not easily accept interference.

Romantic desires may rise to the surface demanding to be fulfilled, and if one is in a relationship that does not meet inner needs, it is likely to be thrown overboard in favor of one that does. Because of this urge for immediate gratification, a new relationship could bring unwanted problems, but is still likely to be a learning experience. However, it could be a time when one meets the most intense and gratifying romance of the entire life. If Venus is nearby, such a possibility is increased.

Transformations are likely in relationships with one's children. They may become deeper or more intense, often rising to a whole new level. Gambling is

governed by the fifth, so care should be taken if the desires run in this direction. Look to the house ruled by Pluto to find a connection to the creative needs.

Sixth House: Conditions surrounding one's job and work environment are likely to be the subject of rearrangement with Pluto in the sixth. Relationships with coworkers may go through changes as a result of a transfer of power on the job. An individual coming newly to the job scene could cause upsets, reorganization, or conflict. In any event, the "norm" associated with one's job and duties are undergoing permanent change. Such a position might coincide with leaving a job in favor of some new pursuit. This position is also associated with the workaholic, and most individuals are amazed and pleased with how much work can be accomplished. Check aspects into this Pluto since with some there is danger of burnout or pushing one beyond the limits.

Health, personal hygiene, and routine physical maintenance are also areas subject to major changes. This position may coincide with the abandonment of bad habits and a new attitude toward the preservation of the physical vehicle. New habits and routines can totally transform one's physical health from the inside out. Occasionally, this position indicates a health crisis. Pluto always reorganizes in an attempt toward improvement, so this position should not be feared. Pluto is associated with toxins and conditions that

have built up over a long period of time. The house ruled by Pluto will reveal the link to this house position.

Seventh House: In the seventh house of partnerships and other people, Pluto signifies deep changes in the way we relate to others. This can come about in a number of ways and may point to one specific relationship or several. An extreme manifestation of Pluto in the seventh house is the complete breakdown and end to a relationship, in which one or the other of the partners are no longer able to grow within the relationship. A new and more satisfying relationship could evolve in the place of the old. More common, however, is that a relationship of some significance is transformed, sometimes through turbulence, into one which brings more fulfillment. This may come about through one or the other partners finally expressing discontentment and demanding change if it is to continue. Extreme measures can be reached before it begins to be dealt with and handled to the satisfaction of both. In such a case, it is not unlikely for a partner who previously had little input to demand his or her equal rights.

Other relationships may undergo changes that will have a deep effect. In particular, one person may come into the life and the relationship takes on a fated quality. All relationships with others can

be expected to have some profound effects. Look to the house ruled by Pluto to find a significant link to the changes taking place in relationships.

Eighth House: Pluto residing in the eighth house brings a transforming emphasis to shared resources. This position might indicate either an increase or a decrease in the amount of earnings brought in by the partner. There may be a change in one's level of dependency on a partner's income. Such indications are especially likely in regard to changes of marital status or changes in a business partnership. Whether through marriage, divorce, or another avenue, this position brings a great amount of activity to the sharing of resources or the division of property.

Another possibility is a need for adjustment in the area of sexuality. One's sexual needs may not be in sync with those of the partner and personal preferences may be undergoing a change. Sometimes, both financial and sexual problems are closely linked. It is not uncommon, even now, for one partner to grant sexual favors in exchange for financial support. Without discussing it openly, both partners may silently consent to what they initially feel to be an appropriate trade. Such an arrangement easily leads to manipulation and then to more serious problems in relationships.

The eighth also rules such things as taxes, insurance, loans, as well as legacies or wills, and one or more of these could be

the source of benefit or loss. There may be problems collecting benefits or benefits received may be the foundation for a major change of lifestyle. This position sometimes corresponds with surgery if other indications concur. The house which is ruled by Pluto will show a connecting link to its eighth house position.

Ninth House: The ninth house governs one's philosophical interests and religious beliefs. Experiences may bring about the realization that a previous system of belief is no longer adequate. "Right" answers are pursued with great intensity and may lead to the development of completely transformed ideas. Associations with those of a philosophical bent may find that one of them is the agent for new theories or such a catalyst may be found through individual study. A long-held interest might be pursued or one may discover a belief system that supports a deep and long-standing inner conviction.

Profound and life-changing events may be experienced in connection with long-distance travel. There may be special meaning behind a trip or an opportunity to travel to a place one has always wanted to go. Some significant experience might occur through one of these journeys. An unforeseen but fateful circumstance can alter one's course completely. This might occur through crossing the path of someone who will change one's life forever, or

a turn of events causes life to take on a whole new meaning. Sometimes, someone who lives a long distance away is an agent for personal change.

Legal matters and publishing are also governed by the ninth, so transforming events could occur in these connections. With links to Jupiter, legal ramifications are intensified. Check the house ruled by Pluto to find the link to these ninthhouse matters.

Tenth House: In the tenth house, Pluto signifies transformations involving one's status and reputation. Such status changes can come about in many different forms and may or may not be in connection with the professional career. Status also includes the state of matrimony, parenthood, and any form in which one is viewed in a new light in the public eye. For women this frequently coincides with a name change due to marriage if there are connections to Mercury.

In the area of profession, this can be an exhilarating time if one has handled responsibilities properly in the past, because Pluto can boost one over the top. Circumstances may earn one an elevation of public respect and projects that have required personal dedication may finally be recognized. One now possesses increased pull and power as well as renewed ambition. Sometimes, a superior is the agent for change as it affects personal status and respectability. Occasionally with this position, one is required to fight in order to preserve respect. If previous unwise actions

have led up to this point, it is at this time that defeat is likely to be suffered and the requirement to start over from scratch. If deceptions have occurred, they are likely to be exposed now. A study of the aspects reveals potential trouble sources.

Because the tenth house rules the most authoritative parent, this relationship may undergo significant changes during this time. As a matter of fact, the authorities in one's life may undergo significant changes themselves. Shifting circumstances may bring a new authority figure into the life. Look to the house ruled by Pluto for a connecting link to this potential.

Eleventh House: With Pluto in the eleventh house, group affiliations and relationships with friends undergo transformation. This position commonly signifies the replacement of one set of associates or group affiliations with a new set. This is frequently tied in with what one does for a living and such a change would naturally take place if one were to embark on a new career. Alternatively, one may become part of a whole new group, which is dedicated to the achievement of personally held goals. Such a group, regardless of size, is likely to wield significant power. New friends may be made through these group associations.

Existing friendships are frequently transformed with this house position but it is just as likely for a friend to transform

one's life. The development of new associations may lead to many personal changes. Losing a friend is another possibility. Various events might bring this about, but it is frequently due to losing touch when someone moves to a distant geographical location. A falling out or the subtle deterioration of a friendship might also occur. This happens when the friendship has served its purpose and is no longer needed. Generally, when these breaks are made, they are permanent. Find the house ruled by Pluto to determine the possibilities with Pluto in the eleventh house.

Twelfth House: The twelfth house signifies issues of a secretive nature and behind-the-scene activities. This includes subconscious fears and motivations that are normally not acceptable, either by others or ourselves. During Pluto's stay in the twelfth house, one is given the opportunity to identify and overcome inner weaknesses and fears of long standing. Coming face to face with these and their source and the recognition of hidden motivations leads to deep and major inner transformations. This can be life changing and a positive experience in the long run. One comes out stronger by contacting these underlying elements within.

While one is aware of inner change and increasing inner resources, there may be no particular urge to let it out into the open just yet. In some instances, the energy associated with this inner processing accumulates beneath the surface and may be felt by others as a disturbing influence. Aware only that something is being hidden, they may feel a vague need to retaliate. Unless one remains aware of this and deals as aboveboard as possible, selfundoing may coincide with this position.

This position is also said to bring the power to banish enemies from one's life

without lifting a finger, but that may be only the tip of the iceberg. One becomes aware of the power of thought and the ease with which thoughts can be visualized and energized to bring about desired results. Because Pluto is associated with bringing things into the open and the twelfth house with deception, secrets that are exposed have results of magnitude. Look to the house ruled by Pluto to find the area of life connected with these inner transformations.

The aspects made by Pluto should also be considered. The following may be applied to the aspects of Pluto in any natal, progressed, or return chart as well as transits to or from Pluto.

Pluto-Sun: Pluto in aspect to the Sun tends to either lend a line of support to the vitality or the reverse, depending on the aspect. It stimulates the power of self-assertion and increases determination, self-confidence, and daring. Even in the positive aspects one is likely to feel a compelling force behind the undertaking and

carrying out of plans. Behavior may border on the compulsive or obsessive. A critical aspect, one's thoughts and feelings are intensified, as events encountered tend to mirror their content. It becomes apparent that the focus of thoughts and the general attitude attract experiences. It is especially important, therefore, to concentrate on desires of a positive nature and those that are not harmful to others, since those, too, will draw negativity back upon one. Major changes may stem from associations with beneficiaries, and whether these are through increased assistance or a lack thereof will be show through the type of aspect.

Pluto-Moon: Aspects involving Pluto to the Moon stimulates the domestic instincts and stirs up emotional intensity. The aspect often corresponds with major changes in the domestic sphere with ramifications leading in many directions. These are sometimes the result of a change in popular appeal and the ability, or lack thereof, to arouse support from a group of followers. Important changes might also be the result of a woman who is central in the life or from personal restlessness and a compulsive nature. Inclines one toward travel with profound undertones. Adverse aspects may correspond with interference to the adequate performance of bodily functions.

Pluto-Mercury: Pluto in aspect to Mercury stimulates a desire for problem solving, research, and for discovering the truths that lie beneath the surface. With favorable aspects, all forms of literary work and communication are enhanced, as are activities related to transport. One may find support through relatives and subordinates. Adverse aspects suggest potential problems along these lines and obsessive ideas should be checked for flaws as they are likely to be the source of major setbacks. Changes occurring may involve a youth or

close relative. Adverse aspects may suggest ill functioning of the nervous system or a problem with the lungs.

Pluto-Venus: Pluto in aspect to Venus stimulates emotional activity and the artistic nature. Enhanced emotional sensitivity may lead to the development of latent artistic talent. The affections are intensified and karmic bonds of an intimate nature are often established with this aspect, sometimes leading to marriage or powerful associations. With adverse aspects, an unfortunate love affair could result in heartbreak or disappointment. Important changes and activity centers on a loved one and brings great happiness or the reverse. With adverse aspects, the health could be affected by emotional stress or through overindulgence.

Pluto-Mars: When Pluto is in aspect to Mars, the desires and passions are aroused. Self-assertive qualities are at a

peak and the aspect inclines to hard physical work as well as a fighting spirit. Positive aspects denote activities involving the clearing of ground as a prelude to constructive action. There is considerable preoccupation regarding the affairs of the house ruled by Scorpio, due to its rulership by both planets. Other important changes and events may center on a son or the husband in a woman's chart. In the adverse aspects there is danger of setbacks through rash or unrestrained action, through arousing antagonism or a disregard for the rights of other. A danger of accident or feverish illness is found with stressful aspects.

Pluto-Jupiter: Pluto in aspect to Jupiter intensifies the spirit of enthusiasm and expansive tendencies. Self-assurance or the participation in social activities may attract the support of influential persons. Activities relating to law, religion, travel, or publishing is likely to be the source of financial gain or loss, depending on the aspect. Events in connection with relatives may be a similar source of loss or gain. With adverse aspects, there is danger of setbacks due to extravagance, waste, and impulsiveness, and these aspects often coincide with unfulfilled desires. Vitality is increased but, with stressful aspects, the wasting of energy may lower a resistance to disease.

Pluto-Saturn: Pluto in aspect to Saturn stimulates ambition, perseverance, and concentration. Advancement may come about through disciplined effort, patience, and the ability to persevere in the face of great adversity. A tendency toward self-denial may result in relentlessly controlling one's own emotional nature, which extends to include one's expectations of others. Harsh behavior may invite retaliation with adverse aspects. Setbacks arising may be

due to involvement in extremely complicated affairs. Pluto-Saturn aspects affect health through the bony structure and teeth or through strange illnesses that have been developing over a length of time.

Pluto-Uranus: Pluto in aspect to Uranus intensifies the freedom-loving nature and need for independence. The powers of invention and originality are stimulated and discoveries are made through dedicated and thorough research of a specific field. The ability to combine the methods of others and add a unique personal touch leads to advancement in areas of invention and technique. The development of intuition and spiritual insight at this time depends upon the level of evolution. Setbacks arise from an eccentric or self-willed approach to activities with adverse aspects. Vitality is increased, but with adverse aspects, nervous disorders or an accident involving electrical machinery is a possibility.

Pluto-Neptune: Pluto and Neptune in aspect stimulate the desire to transcend boundaries, often as a result of emotional

experience.¹ The reach for the ideal may be sought through artistic expression or spiritual development, resulting in advancement and opportunities to influence the masses. An active imagination is the forerunner of success along these lines and may put one in touch with the loftiest levels of knowledge and understanding. Depending on the general nature shown through this and other aspects, one may also be plunged into the lowest, darkest levels. Perversions, instability of character, and unfortunate connections may lead to involvement in mysterious activities and twisted circumstances with results that are difficult to alleviate in the afflicted aspects. Danger to health comes through involvement with drugs or alcohol and lowered resistance to chemicals.

Note

1. For more than half of the twentieth century, Neptune and Pluto have held a sextile aspect in the heavens. From 1942 through 1997, everyone born had this aspect—this may be connected to the great surge of spiritual awakening we are experiencing today. Those born in that era with this aspect prominent and well configured with the luminaries may especially play the role of teachers, providing new information and insights that lead us into the new millennium and toward great strides in our spiritual evolution. Research shows that intuition, a well-developed sixth sense, and psychic abilities are connected to these aspects.

Chapter Twenty-One

THE TRANSITS OF THE MOON'S NODES

Finding themes and patterns suggesting a certain type of event can be relatively easy, but when it comes to timing the event, we can often use all the help we can get. The nodes of the Moon provide this timing and helps to pinpoint with more detail the particulars of the event itself.

The North Node of the Moon, both in the natal horoscope and in its transit, provides a positive influx of energy and power. It has been identified with Jupiter and embodies a joining quality. The South Node is akin to Saturn, and may show a point of self-dissipation. It exhibits a separating quality.

A planet in conjunction with one of the nodes in the birth chart has the influence of the appropriate node to be either an innate source of fortune and honor or one of potential mishandling and self-undoing. The South Node points to a place where we perform at a somewhat unconscious level, meaning the easy execution of natural abilities or taking the easy road and, occasionally, reflecting moral deficiencies.

Since the opposing nodes hold different meanings, as they transit the horoscope, they create a double set of

aspects. Their conjunction with an angle or planet, and conversely, the conjunction of a transiting planet with a natal node, place great emphasis on the planet or angle involved in the contact. The nodes provide timing, and their contacts can be relied on to forecast probable events in keeping with the nature of the angle or planet transited. Some of the most significant life developments take place when the Moon's nodes transit the angles of the chart.

The following is an outline of nodal contacts and can be referred to whether found in the transits to the natal chart or in any return chart.¹

By considering each of the nodal connections formed in return charts, a considerable amount of substantial material can be found in the nodal factors alone. In fact, these will often lead the entire chart. Noteworthy contacts in the return chart include not only the transiting node to natal planet and transiting planet to natal node, but also transiting node to transiting planet. In the latter case, when the return house and sign position of the pair is considered, the trend suggested will be quite a dynamic factor for the return period. Of course, nodal contacts formed in the Solar Return are more powerful than in Lunar Returns, simply due to the length of time the aspect is in force. Contacts of the transiting nodes to the progressed planets and angles also manifest quite dynamically, and should be considered.

Nodes-Midheaven: As the nodes of the Moon transit across the MC-IC axis, there are usually countering themes involving the areas ruled by the fourth and tenth houses. Since a conjunction of the North Node to the Midheaven automatically brings the South Node to the fourth house cusp, these transits will usually show an increase in status and recognition, and activity runs smoothly in the professional area. There are good relationships with superiors and authorities and they tend to be especially beneficial at this time. This transit often closely coincides with a new professional position or promotion. At the same time, things may not be going as smoothly within the domestic scene, thus an emphasis to the outlet of energies through the professional arena. There may be concerns regarding the parents or family. This time period may coincide with additional expenses or repairs around the house and could time the illness of one of the parents. Occasionally, this transit reflects a period of deep introspection as the individual reassesses his or her security foundations.

The opposite transit with the North Node transiting the fourth house cusp and the South Node on the Midheaven

suggests an opposing theme. Here, it is the home front and familial relationships that are progressing smoothly and providing satisfaction, while the professional area is lacking in some way. This transit often coincides with a fortunate relocation or move. This may be a direct result of the unfortunate situations arising in the professional area or a lack of career opportunities. Superiors or authority figures may be dissatisfied with the efforts of the individual at this time. Assistance is likely to come from one of the parents, who are likely to be enjoying fortunate circumstances.

The tenth and fourth houses are traditionally representative of the parents, with the tenth usually identifying the more authoritative of the two. However, research indicates that when it comes to the transits of the nodes, the fourth house relates to either parent, with other authority figures represented by the tenth.

Nodes-Ascendant: When the North Node transits the Ascendant, the individual is in a “coming out” phase. Personal timing tends to be fortunate, and there is a knack for being in the right place at the right time. Things begin to click, as there is an air of self-sufficiency, with others responding more readily to any personal efforts undertaken by the individual. Those born with the North Node conjunct the Ascendant are always noticeable for these dynamic qualities, and others are quite willing to follow their lead.

At the same time, the transiting South Node on the seventh house cusp shows that others may tend to be somewhat like extra weight to carry, requiring the individual to take on added responsibilities or burdens. This transit occasionally times a health problem or unfortunate circumstances

surrounding the marriage partner or an intimate. Due to stressful conditions, partners may become moody or difficult to deal with. Because the individual with this aspect is anxious to move forward on his/her personal interests and projects, any conflicting demands are more taxing than usual.

With the opposite transit, the situation is reversed. With the North Node on the cusp of the seventh house, and the South Node on the first, others seem to hold the winning hand for the time being. Whether or not the individual is undergoing some personality crisis, he or she finds that it is not a time for going it alone. Others must be depended upon to a more elevated degree, and it is not unusual to find that there is a very real dependency issue going on here. Whatever help or support needed by the individual at this time can be found easily, since there are others around more than willing to lend themselves. This cycle

often coincides with meeting a “partner” who can be of great benefit for some time to come, and it is not uncommon for marriage to take place with this transit. In general, benefits to the individual will come via the partner, and these are sometimes quite substantial.

Although these transits frequently bring an emphasis to the marriage partner as the one who either requires or offers the additional support, this is not a hard-and-fast rule. It may be some other person or “others” in general who play this role.

These angular contacts of the nodes usually time the more important events happening in a lifetime, and while the foregoing describes the general way they will manifest, there are exceptions in which a North Node transit will coincide with unfortunate events and vice versa. At such times, there will be other patterns showing in the chart, often involving the nodes themselves, describing this reverse order of things. If the node is transiting with another planet when it makes one of these natal contacts, those factors must be considered.

Even in the return charts, the periods in which either the transiting or natal node fall on one of the angles suggest a dynamic trend. Events tend to be more significant and personal than at other times. For example, if the transiting node aligns with the Ascendant of the Lunar Return, it will be a particularly busy month. The individual is likely to initiate or follow through with a project that is time consuming and personally rewarding. There will be a need for balancing personal needs with responsibilities to others. In

fact, it is a good idea to prepare for this transit if possible. Beyond this, if a node falls exactly on any other house cusp in the return, the events relating to that house will contain deeper connotations for the period.

Nodes-Nodes: The conjunction of the transiting nodes to the natal nodes also typically times important cyclic events in the life. These connections reflect cataclysmic points in time, similar to the previously described angular contacts. While all events linked to the nodes seem to contain an undertone of karma, these especially point to matters in which others appear to have as much control as the individual in ordering up the events taking place. It is notably preferable to have the nodes lined up on the natal nodal axis as they were at birth than to have them interchanged in position. The North Node conjunct North Node often reflects forming relationships and fortunate connections, while the South Node conjunct the North Node indicates broken relationships and unfortunate connections. The latter

combination frequently times mishaps, accidents, and unusual circumstances.

Nodes-Part of Fortune: Aspects linking the nodes to the Part of Fortune are also noteworthy. The North Node with the *Pars Fortuna* reflects comfortable conditions and meetings with those who can be of special benefit. It often times a change in trends brought about through this new and fortunate connection. The individual's timing and choices tend to be right on target for bringing about improved conditions. The opposing South Node transit usually shows less fortunate circumstances in the living conditions and environment. Support is not only lacking, there may be conflicts arising that push the individual in a corner. In fact, caution should be applied in forming new relationships at this time since someone from this group may be found to have major countering interests to those of the individual. Pressure builds in various areas, and the individual is likely to complicate matters even more through inappropriate choices and unwise decisions.

Nodes-Vertex: The nodes with the Vertex have similar connotations. The nature of the Vertex implies that nodal connections to this point will manifest qualities similar to those with the Ascendant axis as well as the Part of Fortune. This is because it is a sort of auxiliary Descendant, and relates specifically to important and seemingly fated encounters, both with

people and with circumstances.

Nodes-Midpoint: Another notable contact of the nodes are those that form with the Sun-Moon midpoint. Since this is a point reflecting a male-female relationship, often the parents as a unit, and is a point of balance of the yin-yang qualities, it frequently signifies events taking place which affects the family unit. Squares to this point frequently appear to be as significant as the conjunction or opposition.

Nodes-Planets: As the nodes transit the natal planets or transiting planet aspects the natal nodes, events take place according to the things ruled by that planet and the area it rules in the natal chart. The nodes tend to excite any planet to manifest at its fullest potential and bring an extreme amount of emphasis to such a planet. The transiting node conjunct transiting planets brings an emphasis to things ruled by that planet. If transiting a natal planet, the inherent potential of the planet is given more freedom to operate. In this case, the potential of any natal planet must be considered when judging probable manifestations. The Solar and Lunar Returns should especially be noted for any of these planetary contacts. They offer valuable detail on the

kind of activity that is upcoming, as well as identifying the area of life to be affected and how such activity will take place. These nodal contacts can be combined with an evaluation of the progressed chart and current transits to determine more specifically the events coming due.

Outside of the angular placements of the nodes, their conjunction with the planet ruling the natal horoscope is among the most notable of any. Since the first house rules the physical body, a conjunction of one of the nodes to this ruler have been found to coincide with self-initiated changes in appearance or style. They may also time an illness, operation, or accident.

Nodes-Pluto: Links of Pluto with one of the nodes are quite dynamic. Pluto is associated with new strength in confronting and overcoming limitations, while the nodes also time periods of exceptional strength in facing situations once and for all. Together, they show a time of reckoning with deep and powerful psychological issues.

Because the nodes are reflective of lunar qualities associated with the domestic environment, paired with Pluto, they often translate into literal transformations or reorganization taking place within the home or family unit. Circumstances are often somewhat tumultuous in the home, and/or renovations are taking place. There is a “coming to terms” with inner needs.

This link with Pluto also brings termination and times the closure of significant issues, especially if there have been

conflicts of interest. Immovable force meets with immovable force, and a collision of interests often results in a victory for one and defeat for another. A previous set of circumstances is rearranged upon a new foundation. Pluto is often involved with the nodes when divorce occurs. Together, this pair is significant of sexual issues of all kinds and it has been found linked to rape. There are death and rebirth situations, and an actual death could occur. This combination has been found to be a significant factor in suicides, overdoses, and murder, as well as holdups, shootings, and other personal attacks.

These Pluto-node connections are also linked to both kidnappings and forced custodial changes. Relating to reproduction, the pairing may also coincide with miscarriages, abortions, and vasectomies.

The link of the nodes with Pluto is significant also of new enterprise and of financial matters. The house ruled by Pluto should also be considered in judging the probable area of life that comes into focus.

In addition to the changes initiated or encountered by the individual with a

node-Pluto contact, on a larger scale it can be witnessed to produce a change in consciousness by the masses when it is the transiting node upon the natal Pluto(s) of a generation.

Nodes-Neptune: Neptune links to the nodes often times the rise of confusing issues, and there is a general lack of clarity over a particular situation. A previous set of circumstances may have reached a point of dissolution, and new connections are taking place. There are frequently deceptive practices taking place, and one should question the motives of anyone who comes into the life at this time, keeping in mind that "He can only be deceived who first deceives himself," as put by Jean Jacques Rousseau. It is also a time when the individual is more likely to deceive another, or to break the trust of another, even though the decision to do so may seem totally justified at the time. This is possibly the major downfall associated with Neptune, and one's own judgment should be questioned and reviewed under this combination.

Neptune rules liquids and large bodies of water, and these aspects have been found involved with everything from serious roof leaks to living, working, or vacationing on a beachfront property. As noted earlier, the connections of the nodes with Neptune may time a period when drug or alcohol issues come to the surface. This particular combination is also quite prevalent when

thefts and robberies take place. A few years ago, the two were transiting close together for some time. During that time period, it seems that, all around, cars were stolen, people were robbed, and/or losing valuable items.

Even with the foregoing, Neptune should not be considered an unfortunate contact, and it often times remarkable events through which important dreams materialize. It means the erasing of boundaries between the real and the fantastic, which makes this possible. To quote St. Augustine, "Miracles are not contrary to nature, but only contrary to what we know about nature." The intuition is stronger, more reliable, and often right on target. These connections also show a time when inspiration acts as a catalyst to profound artistic accomplishments. This is a spiritual combination, and may coincide with the transcendence to a higher spiritual level through meditation, dream work, or other altered states of consciousness.

Nodes-Uranus: A virtual plethora of possibilities exist when the nodes come together with Uranus. Events are always unexpected and come about suddenly or out of the blue, in keeping with Uranus' characteristics. There are brief encounters

with those who can lift one to extraordinary heights, or dash one into the depths, and these most frequently have their repercussions upon the public reputation of an individual. It is not a good time to take unwise risks if it means subjecting the reputation to negative criticism or ruin, for this is quite likely to happen with this aspect. For that reason, it frequently times the unexpected loss of a job or scandalous attacks to the reputation. Those who have been honest and adhered to ethical codes in their actions and dealings need not worry about this. These configurations are often present when freedom is an issue. This may be the loss of freedom; literally, as in incarceration for a serious crime, or a black mark against one to reflect a lesser crime. Conversely, the same pair has been found to time sudden popularity and fame.

Chance encounters are common, and they can usually be counted on to be quite significant, one way or the other. Typically, relationships begun with this aspect tend to be temporary, erratic, a source of upset, or short-lived, but they have a definite purpose. Once this purpose is carried out, the relationship comes to an abrupt end, though not necessarily on a sour note. Uranian activities are prominent with these aspects, and an interest may develop or opportunities open up in areas such as astrology, electronics, or advanced technologies. The house position of Uranus can help to pinpoint the area of focus.

Nodes-Saturn: Concerns and events may revolve around an authority figure or someone of advanced age when Saturn and the nodes are linked. This is occasionally a parent, but more frequently there are issues with an authority figure. This may be a boss, judge, business associate, or someone else of advanced rank and knowledge. Such a person may be a source of loss, or impose delays and restrictions. Actually, the limitations encountered are not nearly as serious as the individual takes them at

this time, and situations tend to smooth out nicely in the long run.

For purposes of stability, there is nothing better than the conjunction of Saturn and North Node. Both relationships and enterprises begun at this time are likely to be durable and long lasting, and this is especially notable in marriage and professional areas. The individual is willing to take on heavier responsibilities and the added commitments will prove favorable. The Saturn conjunction to the natal North Node is said to be particularly karmic in nature, bringing due rewards for past efforts. There is much truth to this, and it often coincides with terrific upward professional progress, as well as

stabilizing influences in general. If Saturn turns retrograde and passes over this point two or three times, these rewards can be expected at each contact. The alternate transit of North Node to Saturn works in a similar fashion. If anticipated rewards do not transpire, it may be time to scrutinize one's previous efforts and methods.

Saturn with the nodes may time extensive dental work, periods of colds or flu, and bowel problems.

Nodes-Jupiter: Jupiter, as the "greater fortune" does indeed time the periods of greater material assets when combined with the nodes. This combination is often noted when material and financial increase occurs. However, these contacts usually time a period of additional expenditures as well, and the added income is sometimes necessary to cover these. Overexpansion is also a notable characteristic of Jupiter, and this contact may time a cycle of exceptional monetary risks. Heavy financial losses may be the result, though there is usually someone nearby who is willing to bet on the abilities of the individual to pull through and will often lend a helping hand. Even when facing the material setbacks occasionally signified by this contact, the individual will usually make fortunate strides in his or her philosophical beliefs as a direct result of the experience. If one does not benefit materially, then benefits will be of a spiritual nature. This combination also tends to be somewhat social in nature and generally brings one in contact with those of an honorable reputation who will act as a catalyst to spiritual or financial growth.

Weight loss or gain has been associated with this pairing, with much depending on which of the nodes are involved and any linking configurations. Jupiter with the nodes has been noted in horseback riding accidents and leg injuries. It has also been found to time long-distance moves and long-distance travel, and to be influential in publishing ventures.

Nodes-Mars: Mars with the nodes is the most dynamic for action of any other planet. Mars holds some similarities to Pluto in regards to new enterprise, except with Mars, the individual initiates the activities taking place. An example of the type of new ventures is seen in our recent exploration of the planet Mars itself. During the time that the United States' surface scanner, Sojourner, was on its way to Mars, Mars itself turned retrograde, spending several months within a conjunction to the transiting North Node. At the time that Mars again reached its original stationary retrograde position and formed

a conjunction to the North Node of the Pathfinder enterprise chart, the scanner landed on Mars. The entry into new territories and the pioneering activity of Mars is quite evident in this historical event. The fact that it was Mars itself being explored is exemplary!

Mars with the nodes give the courage to follow through on new ideas, and striking out one's own, however, there is more of a tendency to take risks. Caution should be applied to the types of risks taken since the combination also attracts law enforcement officers. The recent Mars-node conjunction timed numerous citations for speeding and reckless traffic violations for many individuals in whose chart the pair contacted the natal Mars. For several personal acquaintances, two or more citations were received within days of each other. With these contacts, tremendous energies come bursting forth in an effort to maintain the personal identity. Mars is also the most often noted link to the nodes at the times of accidents, due almost exclusively to sudden careless actions. Confrontations are very likely to surface with this connection and there are increased mechanical breakdowns and malfunctions, also notable in the recent Pathfinder exploration.

Nodes-Venus: Venus combinations with the nodes usually time pleasant events of a social nature, celebrations, meeting with friends, and fortunate circumstances in general. They are exceptional timers for childbirth and any related social events, such as baby showers, and postbirth

visitations. Since Venus signifies affections and attachments, these combinations also reflect a focus on one's children in their later years. They reflect an involvement with women and their interests, including finery, beauty salons, bridal preparations, flowers, and all things feminine and lacy. They may signify romance, marriage, and they frequently time the concern for a loved one.

Nodes-Mercury: Mercury with the nodes usually promises an accent on movement. It may signal an actual move, but more frequently times either major or minor concerns with vehicles, occasionally coinciding with a traffic accident. Travel plans are made and tickets purchased. Secondary themes suggested by the pairing are issues surrounding communications and agreements. These tend to take on added importance, and there is an increase of important news personal in nature. Important discussions and negotiations take place. In relation to both these themes of Mercury, it is a good idea to check the overall chart and to consider which of the nodes is involved in the

contact to Mercury. Before issuing a statement in writing or signing papers of any kind, think things over first. Extra awareness in any communication at this time can help to prevent serious misunderstandings. Mercury sometimes signifies events relating to young people, and for that reason may sometimes reflect issues surrounding children, either one's own or others.

Nodes-Sun: The nodes combined with the Sun hold a similar meaning as the nodes on the angles of the chart, especially the Midheaven axis. There are frequently location or job changes. If it is the South Node on the Sun, this change may be due to lack of opportunity in the current location and a phase of bottoming out. Relocations taking place at this time frequently work out very well.

Unless there are conflicting themes, the contacts of the nodes with the Sun can generally be counted on to bring favorable conditions, benefits, and the potential for progress and promotion. This is more likely with positive North Node contacts to the Sun. Important acquaintances are made and anyone coming prominently into the life at this time should prove to be quite beneficial, often leading the individual in the direction of bigger and better things. There are fortunate encounters and other discoveries, and financial matters usually improve. The nodal contacts to the progressed Sun are just as dynamic as to

the natal Sun.

Nodes-Moon: The Moon imparts to the nodal contacts the same effect as the Ascendant axis, and signifies events quite personal in nature. Similar to the Ascendant tie, this frequently times a period of favor, popularity, and an exceptional amount of support from others. It is especially noted when public support is received. Just as important as a nodal contact to the natal Moon is its contact to the progressed Moon. In fact, the latter contact sometimes appears as the more dynamic of the two.

Events centering on the home and family take on added importance and these contacts especially relate to qualities of nurturing and mothering. Often someone enters the life at this time that plays a nurturing role. This is likely to be a woman, and relationships with women tend to be most significant. At other times, this contact may show a time when a nurturing individual leaves or the relationship comes to an end. These node-Moon links also coincide with the birth of children and events surrounding offspring. This contact has been noted as a factor in various accidents and in cases of drowning. As in all the nodal contacts, the North Node will more often reveal a joining quality in these matters, while the South Node indicates a separating quality.

Note

1. The contents of this chapter were originally published as an article in *Dell Horoscope Magazine*, April 1998, titled “Timing Events with the Moon’s Nodes.” Republished with approval. Copyrights reserved.

Table of Nodes

The following is a table of the Lunar North Node Mean positions from the years 1935 through 2054 for easy reference. The table is fairly self-explanatory.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

Table 1. Ephemeris for North Node: 1935-2054

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
	01 ^02	15 b 12	09/23	04/04	14 TIL 14	09^25	03^06	13 16 TK	08 ^21	03^08
Jan.	16 01	30 11	24 22	19 03	29 13	24 24	18 05	28 15	23 26	18 07
	01 01	14 11	08 22	03 02	13 13	08 24	02 04	12 15	07 26	02 06
Feb.	16 00	29	23 21	18 02	28 12	23 23	17 04	27 14	22 25	17 06
	01 K29	15 09	09 20	04 01	14 11	10 22	05 03	15 13	08 24	03 05
March	16 28									
	31 27	30 08	25 19	20 00	30 10	24 21	19 02	29 12	24 23	18 04
	16 26	14 07	06 18	04 TIL 29	17 09	08 20	03 01	13 11	07 22	02 03
April	30 26	29 06	24 18	19 28	29 09	23 20	18 01	28 11	23 22	17 03
	14 25	14 06	09 17	04 28	14 08	08 19	04 00	15 10	08 21	02 02
May	31 24	29 05	24 16	19 27	29 07	23 18	18 ^29	28 09	23 20	17 01
	16 23	13 04	08 15	03 26	13 06	09 17	02 28	11 08	07 19	01 00
June	30 23	28 03	23 14	18 25	28 05	22 16	17 27	27 07	22 18	1625 30
	14 22	13 02	08 14	03 24	13 05	10 16	02 27	12 07	07 18	01 29
July	31 21	28 02	23 13	18 24	28 04	22 15	17 26	27 06	22 17	17 28
										31 27
	14 20	12 01	07 12	02 23	12 03	05 14	01 25	10 05	06 16	06 26
Aug.	30 19	27 00	22 11	17 22	27 02	21 13	15 24			
							31 23	26 04	21 15	30 25
	13 19	11 Z29	06 10	01 21	11 01	07 12	17 23	11 03	04 14	14 25
Sept.	30 18	26 28	21 10	16 21	26 01	20 12	30 22	25 03	20 14	29 24
	01 18	11 28	06 09	01 20	12 00	05 11	15 21	12 02	06 13	13 23
Oct.	16 17	26 27	21 08	16 19						
				31 18	26^29	20 10	30 20	25 01	20 12	29 22
	01 16	10 26	05 07	15 17	09 28	07 09	16 19	10 00	03 11	14 21
Nov.	16 15	25 25	20 06	30 17	25 27	19 08	29 19	24^30	19 10	28 21
	01 14	10 24	05 06	15 16	13 27	04 08	14 18	08 29	05 10	15 20
Dec.	16 13									
	31 13	25 24	20 05	30 15	25 26	19 07	29 17	24 28	19 09	28 19

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
	12 \$18	071 29	021 10	12 0 20	06 0 01	01 T 12 16 11 31 11	11 H22	06 M 03	15^13	10 b 24
Jan.	27 17	22 28	17 09	29 19	22 00		26 21	21 02	30 13	25 23
	11 17	06 28	01 08	02 19	05 T 30	15 10	09 21	04 02	15 12	10 23
Feb.	26 16	21 27	16 08	28 18	20 29		25 20	20 01		24 22
	11 15	07 26	03 07	11 17	08 28	02 09	12 19	05 00	01 11 16 10 31 09	11 21
March	28 14	23 25	18 06	27 16	22 27	17 08	27 18	21 ^29		26 20
	11 13	09 24	04 05	13 15	05 26	01 07	10 17	06 28	14 09	11 20
April	27 13	22 24	17 05	26 15	21 26	16 07	26 17	20 28	30 08	25 19
	13 12	06 23	03 04	11 14	07 25	01 06 17 05 31 04	11 16	04 27	14 07	09 18
May	27 11	22 22	17 03	26 13	21 24		26 15	20 26	30 06	25 17
	11 10	08 21	01 02	12 12	07 23	15 03	09 14	05 25	15 05	10 16
June	26 09	21 20	16 01	25 11	20 22	30 03	25 14	19 24	29 05	24 16
	11 09	06 20	01 00 16 0 30 31 29	13 11	06 22	15 02	11 13	03 24	14 04	08 15
July	26 08	21 19		25 10	20 21	30 01	25 12	19 23	29 03	24 14
	12 07	07 18	16 28	13 09	06 20	16 00	08 11	04 22	14 02	09 13
Aug.	25 06	20 17	30 27	24 08	19 19	29 H 30	24 10	18 21	28 01	23 12
	15 06	08 16	17 27	07 08	07 18	16 29	08 10	02 20	12 01	08 12
Sept.	24 05	19 15	29 26	23 07	18 18	28 28	23 09	17 20	27 30	22 11
	10 04	05 15	18 25	11 06	06 17	17 27	09 08	03 19	12 29	07 10
Oct.	24 03	19 14	29 24	23 05	18 16	28 26	23 07	17 18	27 28	22 09
	13 02	08 13	12 23	10 04	04 15	13 25	09 06 22 06 10 05 16 15 22 04	01 17 16 17 01 16	11 27 26 11 26	05 U8 21 08 07 07
Nov.	23 02	18 12	28 23	22 04	17 14	27 25				
	07 01	09 12	14 22	08 03	06 14	14 24				
Dec.	23 00	18 11	28 21	22 02	17 13	27 23		31 14	26 25	21 06

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column.
Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
	05 15 05	15 / 15	09 IL 26	04 IL 07	14^ 17	09 TO 28	03 TO 09	13 19	08 00	03 \$ 11
Jan.	20 04	30 15	24 25	19 06	29 17	24 27	18 08	28 19	23 \$30	18 10
	03 04	15 14	08 25	04 06	12 16	08 27	02 08	13 18	08 29	03 10
Feb.	19 03	29 13	23 24	18 05	28 15	23 26	17 07	27 17	22 28	17 09
	05 02	16 12	09 23	06 04	15 14	10 25	04 06	14 16	09 27	02 08
March	21 01	30 11	25 22	20 03	30 13	24 24	19 05	29 15	24 26	18 07
	07 00	16 11	11 22	05 02	15 13	08 24	05 04	12 15	09 26	03 06
April	20/30	29 10	24 21	19 02	29 12	23 23	18 04	28 14	23 25	17 06
	06 29	13 09	09 20	03 01	14 11	07 22	04 03	13 13	08 24	02 06
May	20 28	29 08	24 19	19 00	29 10	23 21	18 02	28 12	23 23	17 04
	09 27	15 07	10 18	03 ^29	16 09	10 20	04 01	12 11	07 22	01 03
June	19 26	28 07	23 18	18 28	28 09	22 20	17 00	27 11	22 22	16 02
	05 26	17 06	11 17	06 28	13 08	08 19	02^2 30	12 10	07 21	01 02
July	19 25	28 05	23 16	18 27	28 07	22 18	17 29	27 09	22 20	16 01
	06 24	18 04	10 15	08 26	14 06	07 17	01 28	11 08	06 19	31 00
Aug.	18 23	27 03	22 14	17 25	27 05	21 16	16 27	26 07	21 18	151 30
	09 22	15 03	12 14	01 24	13 05	10 16	16 26	11 07	04 18	30 29
Sept.	17 22	26 02	21 13	16 24	26 04	20 15	30 25	25 06	20 17	14 28
	12 21	10 01	08 12	01 23	11 03	05 14	17 24	09 05	06 16	29 27
Oct.	17 20	26 00	21 11	16 22	26 02	20 13	30 23	25 04	20 15	13 26
	01 19	10 m, 30	10 10	19 21	15 01	07 12	16 23	09 03	05 14	29 25
Nev.	16 19	25 29	20 10	30 20	25 00	19 12	29 22	24 03	19 14	14 24
	01 18	12 28	15 09	20 19	10 30	03 11	13 21	10 02	04 13	28 24
Dec.	17 17									14 23
	31 16	25 27	20 08	30 18	25 29	19 10	29 20	24 01	19 12	28 22

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974
	12 I 21	07 I 02	02 O 13	12 T 23	06 T 04	01 K 15	11 ^25	06^06	15 b 17	10/27
						15 14				
Jan.	27 21	22 02	17 12	27 23	21 04	31 14	26 25	21 06	30 16	25 27
	11 20	05 01	01 12	12 22	06 03	16 13	11 24	06 05	14 15	08 26
Feb.	26 19	21 O 30	16 11	26 21	20 02		25 23	20 04		24 25
	13 18	09 29	02 10	12 20	07 01	03 12	13 22	07 03	01 14	10 24
									17 13	
March	28 17	23 28	18 09	27 19	22 00	17 11	27 21	21 02	31 13	26 23
	14 17	08 28	04 09	14 19	06 H 30	01 11	11 21	05 01	15 12	09 23
April	27 16	22 27	17 08	26 18	21 29	16 10	26 20	20 00	30 11	25 22
	16 15	10 26	02 07	12 17	06 28	01 09	11 19	05 b 30	16 10	11 21
						15 08				
May	27 14	22 25	17 06	26 16	21 27	31 07	26 18	20 29	30 09	25 20
	17 13	08 24	01 05	12 15	06 26	18 07	13 17	03 28	13 09	09 19
June	26 13	21 24	15 05	25 15	20 26	30 06	25 17	19 28	29 08	24 19
	14 12	10 23	01 04	14 14	07 25	19 05	12 16	04 27	15 07	08 18
			18 03							
July	26 11	21 22	31 02	25 13	20 24	30 04	25 15	19 26	29 06	24 17
	10 10	05 21	19 01	11 12	05 23	16 03	12 14	02 25	13 05	09 16
Aug.	25 09	20 20	30 00	24 11	19 22	29 03	24 13	18 24	28 05	23 16
	15 09	03 20	14 T 30	14 11	04 22	16 02	10 13	03 24	11 04	06 15
Sept.	24 08	19 19	29 29	23 10	18 21	28 01	23 12	17 23	27 03	22 14
	17 07	05 18	20 28	13 09	07 20	18 00	11 11	02 22	14 02	08 13
Oct.	24 06	19 17	29 27	23 08	18 19	28 ^30	23 10	17 21	27 01	22 12
	07 06	09 16	21 27	08 08	04 18	15 29	10 10	01 20	12 00	05 12
Nov.	23 05	18 16	28 26	22 07	17 18	27 28	22 09	16 20	26/30	21 11
	09 04	11 15	17 25	06 06	06 17	16 T7	07 08	01 19	12 29	07 10
								17 18		
Dec.	23 03	18 14	28 24	22 05	17 16	27 26	22 07	31 17	26 28	21 09

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column.
Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984
	05/08	15 HL 19	09=^29	04 ^10	14 HE 21	09 TIE 01	03^ 12	13 \$23	08 \$03	031 14
Jan.	20 08	30 18	24 29	19 10	29 20	29 00	18 12	28 22	23 03	18 14
	03 07	13 17	08 28	04 09	14 19	08^30	02 11	13 21	07 02	03 13
Feb.	19 06	29 16	23 27	18 08	28 18	23 29	17 10	27 20	22 01	17 12
	06 05	15 15	09 26	05 07	16 17	10 28	04 09	14 19	08 00	02 11
March	21 04	30 15	25 25	20 06	30 17	24 27	19 08	29 19	241 30	18 10
	06 04	17 14	11 25	04 06	15 16	07 27	05 08	12 18	08 29	03 10
April	20 03	29 13	24 24	19 05	29 15	23 26	18 07	28 17	23 28	17 09
	09 02	16 12	09 23	04 04	17 14	10 25	04 06	13 16	07 27	02 08
May	20 01	29 11	24 22	19 03	29 13	23 24	18 05	28 15	23 26	17 07
	04 00	18 11	11 22	06 02	12 13	08 24	05 04	13 15	07 26	01 06
June	19 HL 30	28 10	23 21	18 02	28 12	22 23	17 04	27 14	22 25	16 06
	04 29	14 09	09 20	08 01	15 11	07 22	03 03	12 13	09 24	01 05
July	19 28	28 08	23 19	18 00	28 10	22 21	17 02	27 12	22 23	16 04
										31 03
	10 27	16 07	10 18	02 HE 29	14 09	11 20	01 01	11 11	05 22	15 03
Aug.	18 26	27 07	22 18	18 28	27 09	21 20	16 00			
							31 \$30	26 11	21 22	30 02
	12 26	10 06	06 17	01 28	11 08	07 19	17 29	13 10	06 21	14 01
Sept.	17 25	26 05	21 16	16 27	26 07	20 18	30 28	25 09	20 20	29 00
	07 24	12 04	08 15	01 26	16 06	05 17	17 27	15 08	06 19	14 0 29
Oct.	17 23	26 03	21 14	31 25	26 05	20 16	30 27	25 07	20 18	29 28
	01 22	09 03	16 14	18 24	10 05	08 16	18 26	09 07	04 18	13 28
Nov.	16 22	25 02	20 13	30 23	25 04	19 15	29 25	24 06	19 17	28 27
	01 21	11 01	17 12	16 22	12 03	09 14	14 24	10 05	05 16	13 26
Dec.	15 20									
	31 19									
		25 00	20 11	30 21	25 02	19 13	29 23	24 04	19 15	28 25

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994
Jan.	12Q25	07 0 06	02 T 16	12X27	06X08	01 18	11 b 29	06 b 10	15/20	10/01
						15 18				
	27 24	22 05	17 16	27 26	21 07	31 17	26 28	21 09	30 19	25 B 30
Feb.	11 23	06 04	01 15	12 25	05 06	16 16	10 27	06 08	14 28	08 29
	26 22	21 03	16 14	26 24	20 05		26 26	20 07		24 28
March	13 21	07 02	02 13	12 23	08 04	03 16	13 25	07 06	01 17	11
									16 16	
	28 21	23 01	18 12	27 23	22 04	17 14	27 25	21 06	31 16	26 27
April	14 20	09 00	04 12	12 22	08 03	01 14	13 24	05 05	15 15	09 26
	27 19	22 T 30	17 11	26 21	21 02	16 13	26 23	20 04	30 14	25 25
May	14 18	07 29	01 10	14 20	10 01	01 12	10 22	06 03	15 13	11 24
						16 11				25 23
	27 17	22 28	17 09	26 19	21 00	31 10	26 21	20 02	30 13	
June	16 17	11 28	01 08	12 19	05^30	17 10	12 21	03 01	15 12	08 23
	26 16	21 27	16 08	25 18	20 29	30 09	25 20	19 00	29 11	24 22
July	17 15	13 26	01 07	13 17	05 28	18 08	14 19	04/30	15 10	09 21
			16 06							
	26 14	21 25	31 05	25 16	20 27	30 07	25 18	19 29	29 09	24 20
Aug.	10 13	05 24	18 05	10 15	04 26	19 07	11 17	02 28	14 09	09 19
	25 13	20 24	30 04	23 15	19 26	29 06	24 17	18 28	28 08	23 19
Sept.	10 12	04 23	19 03	11 14	05 25	15 05	09 16	03 27	11 07	06 18
	24 11	19 22	29 02	23 13	18 24	28 03	23 15	17 26	27 06	22 17
Oct.	12 10	04 21	16 01	12 12	04 23	16 03	08 14	02 25	13 05	07 16
	24 09	19 20	29 00	23 11	18 22	28 03	23 13	17 24	27 05	22 16
Nov.	14 09	08 20	13 M 30	06 11	05 22	15 02	07 13	01 24	13 04	06 15
	23 08	18 19	28 29	22 10	17 21	27 01	22 12	16 23	26 03	21 14
Dec.	16 07	09 18	17 28	08 09	02 20	17 00	10 11	01 22	14 02	07 13
								18 21		
	23 06	18 17	28 27	22 08	17 19	27 b 29	22 10	31 20	26 01	28 12

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon’s Nodes

1995199619971998199920002001200220032004											
	05 UL 12	15 ^22	09=^03	04 HJ 14	14^24	09^2 05	03 \$ 16	13 I 26	08 I 07	03 0 18	
Jan.	20 11	30 21	24 02	19 13	29 23	24 04	18 15	28 25	23 06	18 17	
	03 10	15 20	08 01	04 12	12 22	09 03	02 14	13 24	07 05	03 16	
Feb.	19 09	29 19	23 00	18 11	28 21	23 02	17 13	27 23	22 04	17 15	
	05 09	14 19	ion? 30	06 10	16 21	10 01	04 12	15 23	11 03	05 14	
March	21 08	30 18	25 29	20 10	30 20	24 00	19 12	29 22	24 03	18 14	
	07 07	14 17	08 28	05 09	16 19	08 \$30	06 11	15 21	08 02	02 13	
April	20 06	29 16	24 27	19 08	29 18	23 29	18 10	28 20	23 01	17 12	
	06 05	13 15	09 26	03 07	17 17	10 28	04 09	14 19	11 00	03 11	
May	20 04	29 15	24 25	19 06	29 17	23 27	18 08	28 19	23 0 30	17 10	
	07 04	13 14	08 25	04 06	16 16	09 27	05 08	11 18	10 29	01 10	
June	19 03	28 13	23 24	18 05	28 15	22 26	17 07	27 17	22 28	16 09	
T.J.r	05 02									01 08	
		12 12	09 23	02 04	15 14	11 25	02 06	13 16	10 27	16 07	
	IQ									31 06	
		28 11	23 22	18 03	28 13	22 24	17 05	27 15	22 26		
	12 00	13 11	07 22	02 02	14 13	05 24	01 04				
							17 04				
Aug.	18^30	in io	22 21	17 02	27 12	21 23	31 03				
								26 14	21 25	30 05	
	08 29	13 09	07 20	01 01	16 11	08 22	18 02	14 13	09 24	15 04	
Sept.	17 28	26 08	21 19	16 00	26 10	20 21	30 01	25 12	20 23	29 03	
	10 27	14 07	06 18	01 29							
				17 28							
Oct.	17 26	26 07	21 18	31 28	26 09	20 20	30 K 30	25 11	20 22	29 02	
	01 26	12 06	06 17	18 27	12 08	13 19	18 29	14 10	08 21	15 01	
Nov.	16 25	25 05	20 16	30 26	25 07	19 18	29 28	24 09	19 20	28 00	
	01 24	11 04	07 15	16 25	09 06	09 17	17 27	10 08	03 19	13 T 30	
Dec.	17 23										
	31 22										
		25 03	20 14	30 24	25 05	19 16	29 27	24 07	19 18	28 29	

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

	12 T 28	07 T 09	02X20	12^30	06^11	01 13 22 16 21 31 20	1113 02	06Z 13	15 TL 23	10 TL 04
Jan.	27 27	22 08	17 19	27 29	21 10		26 01	21 12	30 22	25 03
	11 26	06 07	01 18	12 28	04 09	15 19	10 00	05 11	13 21	08 02
Feb.	26 25	21 06	16 17	26 27	20 08		25 Z 30	20 10		24 01
	14 25	07 05	02 16	12 27	08 08	03 18	13 29	06 10	01 20 15 20 31 19	11 01
March	28 24	23 05	18 16	27 26	22 07	17 18	27 28	21 09		26^30
	16 23	09 04	04 15	12 25	07 06	01 17	13 27	05 08	14 18	10 29
April	27 22	22 03	17 14	26 24	21 05	16 16	26 26	20 07	30 17	25 28
	17 21	09 02	02 13	14 23	08 04	01 15 17 14 31 14	11 25	06 06	15 16	09 27
May	27 21	22 02	17 12	26 23	21 04		26 25	20 06	30 16	25 27
	15 20	06 01	01 12	10 22	07 03	16 13	11 24	03 05	16 15	08 26
June	26 19	21 X 30	16 11	25 21	20 02	30 12	25 23	19 04	29 14	24 25
	17 18	06 29	01 10 18 09 31 08	12 20	09 01	18 11	12 22	04 03	15 13	10 24
July	26 17	21 28		25 19	20 00	30 11	25 21	19 02	29 13	24 23
	20 17	10 28	19 08	13 19	04b30	21 10	11 21	02 02	14 12	07 23
Aug.	25 16	20 27	30 07	24 18	19 29	29 09	24 20	18 01	28 11	23 22
	17 15	12 26	20 06	08 17	03 28	18 08	09 19	02 IL 30	13 10	07 21
Sept.	24 14	19 25	29 05	23 16	18 27	28 07	23 18	17 29	27 09	22 20
	13 13	03 24	22 05	10 15	04 26	14 07	11 17	02 28	14 09	08 19
Oct.	24 13	19 24	29 04	23 15	18 26	28 06	23 17	17 28	27 08	22 19
	15 12	05 23	23 03	15 14	04 25	15 05	06 16	01 27	12 07	07 18
Nov.	23 11	18 22	28 02	22 13	17 24	27 04	22 15	16 26	26 06	21 17
	09 10	05 21	13 01	16 12	03 23	17 03	08 14	01 25 18 24 31 24	10 05	06 16
Dec.	23 09	18 20	28 01	22 11	17 22	27 03	22 14		26 05	21 16

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

'hanMt'. th

	2917	2	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	202	
2)} >	2' y\	4 ^/	7; '7	y;:	1144 //7	'7 V 7	'SA		
	y/ A	/	y/ SA 'J	4	y/, ys,	y', 7s	y ,b		
	y', 4 4	y\	4 6 s' 4	y'4	I s7	7/ <7	7s, s V		
	y 4 4	p' 4	y/ y's /	7 r 7	/7 y.i	s.' s.	7/ 17 s V		
y	yy y	' 4 4	7s 7,	y^	J; ys,	V 7/	b", s V		
/	/, /' / y	y/4 44 4	/ ;	y/ 'A	y	yy y\	y/. '7, Vs 1 7		
s	4 y/	4, 'y	/Z	'7 >',	14 y/.	b' s	7s, 1 6		
h'/J	'> A	1 4 44	yy y,	y', 7/	> 44	y y.'	(7', VI 1 \$		
	* f	4 4	, y,	,)	Vs	4 y. y.'	7/ <7 <7 1 4		
*	/> /, /> ~/ ^ y y	4/ 4	yy y/s	y's /4	\ % Vs	y/ y.y. S,' '	b', VI 1 4		
	X, y	' / 4	, y	7/^ /1	f / i	4 4 y.y	'7 b's. <A 1 3		
'> '/,	, y	' y/	yy y,y	,y v>	s,y yj)	yy 'A	s. V 1		
,4 44 44 4	y/	'S' 74 4 4	yy y/,	44 34	'// Vs. Vs	7 /	1 1 0		
/	' 4,	l'Z , y'	yz	4 4	'/44 44	's7 Vs	s.' s. '7) 'A) V		
	'A	< 4	4	'/44 4	4	7, y/	'7, yy Vs.	'7, y,'s 14 b's	
h X,	y 4Z	yy , y/	4 44	y/ 4 Z	y/y/,	44	'/ s7, V7	's A 7) b's	
	y "	// y	4	' / 44	7s y '	y'4 Vs.	1 < '7, yi V,	<n	
/•//"	4, 4' y/.	44 z y y	44 4,	y/. , 4	yy, y/	'7> y'r'	y. 1: yj >	S7, S.'s <7 ,	
	z '!,	f4 '4 4/ y	44 4,	' /	' s. VJ	7l y,b	V, <7 ,		
f	/ /4 y/.	44 y/ , y'	Z 44	4 44	y/, , y	si) y	yy yy	s.' 4 * yj) s. ' s.'s 0:	
'/yy	'40	// <, 4 y/	/ /;	's 4	, '//'	/ /A	V,	• A y/: y: 04	
,P,	,4 4,	/44 y	//^4	yy y,'	4J / 7 y/	y,y 'A	SA Vs.	Vs y.' 03	
/X	,4 4 4 'S'	44 4,	44	4, 'yy	'/y/>	.7 yy	V) V	y.y. Vs, 7s.	
t/*/,	' ,//	/, 4	4/	f4 4	y/.	y', 7>	// v>	y// :s y/. V Vs	y.y. y,'s 7s.
		; 7;	>	f 4	1	\	JD	left	
	^4^4 ^4 //	4^47: f - /	Z^ /	■; the	? - od	^r	the in^jc	^te	

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

2025		2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	
Jan.	12 T 01	07 H 12	02^23	12^03	06 b 14	01 Z25		11/05	06 Tl 16	15^26	10^07
						15 24					
						31 23					
Feb.	27 00	22 11	17 22	27 02	21 13			26 04	21 15	30 25	25 06
	11 H30	05 10	01 21	11 01	06 12	16 22		09 03	05 14	13 24	10 05
	26 29	21 09	16 20	26 00	20 11			25 03	20 13		24 05
March	14 28	08 09	02 20	12 b 30	07 11	03 22		12 02	06 13	01 24	11 04
										15 23	
										31 22	
April	28 27	23 08	18 19	27 29	22 10	17 21		27 01	21 12		26 03
	13 26	08 07	04 18	10 28	07 09	01 20		11 00	05 11	14 21	09 02
	27 25	22 06	17 17	26 27	21 08	16 19		26^29	20 10	30 20	25 01
May	15 25	10 05	02 16	12 27	08 08	01 18		11 29	06 10	16 20	09 00
						16 18					
						31 17					
June	27 24	22 05	17 16	26 26	21 07			26 28	20 09	30 19	25 15 30
	13 23	10 04	01 15	09 25	07 06	17 16		10 27	03 08	14 18	08 29
	26 22	21 03	16 14	25 24	20 05	30 15		25 26	19 07	29 17	24 28
July	15 21	11 02	01 13		11 23	09 04		12 25	04 06	15 16	10 27
			16 13								
			31 12								
Aug.	26 21	21 02		25 23	20 04	30 14		25 25	19 06	29 16	24 27
	12 20	05 01	17 11	13 22	05 03	18 13		13 24	02 05	14 15	08 26
	25 19	20^30	30 10	24 21	19 02	29 12		23 23	18 04	28 14	23 25
Sept.	14 18	04 29	19 09	15 20	06 01	15 11		11 22	03 03	12 13	07 24
	24 17	19 28	29 08	23 19	18 00	28 11		23 21	17 02	27 13	22 23
	13 17	04 28	18 08	16 19	03 Z30	14 10		12 21	02 02	13 12	08 23
Oct.	24 16	19 27	29 07	23 18	18 29	28 09		23 20	17 01	27 11	22 22
	15 15	09 26	19 06	06 17	04 28	17 08		07 19	01 ^30	14 10	05 21
	23 14	18 25	28 05	22 16	17 27	27 07		22 18	16 29	26 09	21 20
Dec.	09 13	10 24	17 05	08 15	06 26	18 07		11 17	01 28	12 09	07 20
									16 28		
									31 27		
Dec.	23 13	18 24	28 04	22 15	17 26	27 06		22 17		26 08	21 19

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column.
Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041						2042 2043 2044				
	05 1TJ 18	15=2 28	09=^09	04 \$20	14 \$00	091 11	03 0 22	13 0 02	08 T 13	03 H 24
Jan.	20 17	30 27	24 08	19 19	291 29	24 10	18 21	28 01	23 12	18 23
	03 16	13 26	08 07	04 18	14 28	09 09	02 20	12 00	06 11	03 22
Feb.	19 16	29 26	23 07	18 18	28 28	23 09	17 20	29 T 30	22 11	17 22
	05 15	15 25	10 06	06 17	16 27	09 08	04 19	13 29	10 10	02 21
March	21 14	30 24	25 05	20 16	30 26	24 07	19 18	29 28	24 09	18 20
	07 13	17 23	11 04	05 15	15 25	08 06	05 17	12 27	09 08	03 19
April	20 12	29 22	24 03	19 14	29 24	23 05	18 16	28 in	23 07	17 18
	06 12	16 22	11 03	04 14	15 24	07 05	04 16	13 26	08 07	02 18
May	20 11	29 21	24 02	19 13	29 23	23 04	18 15	28 25	23 06	17 17
	09 10	14 20	10 01	06 12	15 22	07 03	05 14	12 24	08 05	01 16
June	19 09	28 19	23 00	18 11	28 21	22 02	17 13	27 23	22 04	16 15
	04 08	16 19	08 \$30	07 10	14 21	09 01	03 12	13 23	08 03	01 14
July	19 08	28 18	23 29	18 10	28 20	22 00	17 12	27 22	22 03	15 14
	09 07	12 17	11 28	06 09	13 19	06 0 30	01 11	12 21	07 02	14 12
Aug.	18 06	27 16	22 27	17 08	27 18	21 29	16 10	26 20	21 01	30 11
	10 05	10 15	05 26	01 07	11 17	06 28	17 08	11 19	08 00	15 10
Sept.	17 04	26 15	21 25	16 06	26 17	20 27	30 08	25 19	20 H 30	29 10
	09 04	12 14	07 25	01 06	13 16	10 27	18 07	12 18	05 29	13 09
Oct.	17 03	26 13	21 24	17 05	26 15	20 26	30 06	25 17	20 28	29 08
	01 02	14 12	14 23	19 03	15 14	11 25	16 05	12 16	04 27	13 07
Nov.	16 01	25 11	20 22	30 02	25 13	19 24	29 04	24 15	19 26	28 06
	01 00	17 11	15 21	20 02	14 13	04 24	15 04	14 15	05 26	13 06
Dec.	15^30 31 29	25 10	20 21	30 01	25 12	19 23	29 03	24 14	19 25	28 05

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

The Transits of the Moon's Nodes

2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053										2054
	12 H 04	07^ 15	02 b 26	12 b 06	06/17	01 ITU 28	11 Kb 08	06^ 19	15 IK 29	10 IK 10
						15 27				
Jan.	27 03	22 14	17 25	27 05	21 16	31 26	26 07	21 18	30 28	25 09
	10 02	06 13	01 24	11 05	05 15	15 26	10 07	06 17	14 28	08 09
Feb.	26 02	21 13	16 24	26 04	20 15		25 06	20 17		24 08
	15 01	07 12	02 23	12 03	08 14	03 25	13 05	07 16	01 27	11 07
									16 26	
March	28 00	23 11	18 22	27 02	22 13	17 24	27 04	21 15	31 25	26 06
	12 ^29	09 10	04 21	12 01	08 12	01 23	13 03	05 14	14 24	09 05
April	27 29	22 09	17 20	26 00	21 11	16 22	26 03	30 13	30 24	25 05
	15 28	06 09	02 20	11 Z 30	07 11	01 22	10 02	06 13	16 23	11 04
						16 21				
May	27 27	22 08	17 19	26 29	21 10	31 20	26 01	20 12	30 22	25 03
	17 26	08 07	01 18	14 28	07 09	18 19	09 00	03 11	15 21	10 02
June	26 25	21 06	17 17	25 27	20 08	30 18	25 ^=30	19 10	29 20	24 01
	16 25	10 05	01 16	12 27	08 08	18 18	11 29	04 10	14 20	09 00
			17 16							
July	26 24	21 05	31 15	25 26	20 07	30 17	25 28	19 09	29 19	24^30
	17 23	11 04	19 14	13 25	05 06	18 16	12 27	02 08	13 18	09 29
Aug.	25 22	20 03	30 13	24 24	19 05	29 15	24 26	18 07	28 17	23 28
	10 21	04 02	19 12	11 23	06 04	14 14	10 25	03 06	14 16	07 27
Sept.	24 21	19 02	29 12	23 23	18 04	28 14	23 25	17 06	27 16	22 27
	12 20	04 01	20 11	15 22	04 03	15 13	16 24	02 05	13 15	08 26
Oct.	24 19	19 b 30	29 10	23 21	18 02	28 12	23 23	17 04	27 14	22 25
	09 18	09 29	19 09	17 20	05 01	18 11	10 22	01 03	10 13	06 24
Nov.	23 17	18 28	28 08	22 19	17 00	27 10	22 21	16 02	26 13	21 23
	08 17	11 28	20 08	12 19	02 11b 30	19 10	12 21	01 01	13 12	06 23
								20 00		
Dec.	23 16	18 27	28 07	22 18	17 29	27 09	22 20	31 Ke 30	26 11	21 22

Use the table to find the sign and degree of the North Node. Date is shown in the left column. Always retrograde, sign changes of the Node are indicated.

GLOSSARY

affliction: A stressful aspect such as a square or opposition. Mars or Saturn with another planet in conjunction is sometimes an afflicted aspect, depending on aspects made to the pair and placement in the chart. An affliction is associated with challenges.

angles: The first, fourth, seventh, and tenth houses are the angular houses. The cusps of these houses form the angles of the chart. These are high points of energy manifestation. Conditions are ideal at these points for an outflow of energy from planets in aspect to these points.

Aries Point: The true Aries Point is found at the first degree of the zodiac or 0 Aries. This is a point of extreme energy and always signifies events in connection with the world at large. Those outside the normal sphere of influence become interested in the personal affairs of an individual when a planet occupies this point. This significance may be applied to any type of chart reading. The 0 degree of any of the remaining cardinal signs holds similar significance when occupied by a planet and should be treated as a priority with regard to the planet occupying the point and the aspects it forms.

benefic planets: Jupiter and Venus are planets associated with fortune and benefits; as a result these planets are traditionally called benefic planets. The Sun is usually deemed to be benefic as well.

cadent houses: The third, sixth, ninth, and twelfth houses are the cadent houses. A subordinate position or temporary condition of obscurity is associated with the cadent houses, as opposed to the high points of energy manifestation that are associated with the angles.

cardinal signs: Aries, Cancer, Libra, and Capricorn are the cardinal signs. These signs correspond with the start of each season. The high energy potential of these signs is similar to that of the angles in the chart.

common signs: Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces, otherwise known as the *mutable signs*, are sometimes called the *common* signs. These signs have natural rulership over the cadent houses.

conjunction: The conjunction is formed by two or more planets that are within 8 degrees of one another in most charts. In the progressed chart, the orb is reduced to 1 or 1.5 degrees. The conjunction may be regarded to be a hard aspect, and it is dynamic and event producing.

converse calculations: Converse calculations are the same as direct or forward motion calculations, except that such calculations correspond to the same amount of time going back from the time of birth. The converse calculation method is discussed in chapter 3.

descendant: The descendant is the seventh house cusp of a chart and is a relational point.

delineation: An explanation or discussion of aspects and planetary configurations in a chart.

eastern houses: The eastern houses are the tenth, eleventh, twelfth, first, second, and third houses, i.e., the left side of the horoscope chart.

elevated planet: The planet that is nearest the Midheaven is considered to be an elevated planet and holds significance in that respect.

fated: Events that take place of either a positive or negative nature that appear to be brought about by a series of events that have little to do with the actions of an individual. Events of this type appear to be linked closely to configurations that involve the nodes of the Moon, as well as the Vertex.

fixed signs: Taurus, Leo, Scorpio, and Aquarius are the fixed signs. These signs represent permanence and stability.

Grand Cross: The Grand Cross is a configuration in which a minimum of four planets or points form two oppositions in which the planets in opposition square the planets in the other opposition. The Grand Cross is a dynamic and event-producing configuration. (See JonBenet Ramsey's chart in chapter 2.)

hemisphere: The eastern half (left side), the western (right side) half, the southern half (top), or northern half (bottom) of the horoscope chart. An eastern prominence of planets represents an individual in command of events, while a western prominence of planets represents an individual influenced by others. A prominence of planets in the southern hemisphere (top half of the chart) represents an objective approach, while an emphasis in the northern hemisphere reflects subjective and personal issues.

Horary Astrology: Horary Astrology is a specialized branch of predictive astrology. The term *horary* means "of the hour." The Horary chart is a chart drawn at the point that a question is asked, and provides a yes/no answer to that question. Specific rules are applied in horary chart interpretation. For example, in the Horary chart, the first house represents the person asking the question. A relationship should exist between the first-house ruler to the ruler of the house representing the subject in question.

horizon: The division of the horoscope chart between the eastern and western horizons. The first house cusp marks the eastern horizon, while the seventh house cusp represents the western horizon.

karma: The total effect of one's actions during the successive phases of one's existence, regarded as the laws of cause and effect. Karma is an objective, impersonal balancing mechanism existing in the universal spirit.

Lights: The Sun and the Moon. The Lights are often referred to as planets in astrology, **luminaries:** The Sun and the Moon, which are called the *Lights* or *luminaries*^ are the central factors influencing life on Earth.

malefic planets: Mars and Saturn traditionally are termed malefic because they have been noted to correspond most often to stressful or harmful conditions. Pluto or Uranus may also reflect malefic conditions at times.

midpoint: The closest middle point between two planets. Transits to midpoints may stimulate vibrations associated with a mixture of the two planets. The most important midpoint is that between the Sun and the Moon, and is the chief midpoint referred to in this work.

mutable signs: Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius, and Pisces are the mutable signs and naturally correspond to the cadent houses. These changeable signs indicate fluctuating circumstances.

mutual reception: A configuration in which two planets each occupy the sign ruled by the other planet. An example of mutual reception would be the Sun in Aries and Mars in Leo. Mutual reception can also occur through the houses occupied.

nativity: The astrological configurations present at the exact moment of birth that provide the birth chart, natal horoscope, and the personal map of life.

nodes: The nodes (North Node and South Node) are not tangible bodies, but are the points of intersection where the Moon's path intersects with the plane of the ecliptic. The nodes indicate where activity is likely to occur.

non-precessed: Astrological calculations in which precession of the equinoxes is not taken into consideration. In a non-precessed solar return the Sun's position would remain the same as in the natal chart. The non-precessed chart and its calculation are discussed in chapter 3.

opposition: The opposition is formed by planets that are 180 degrees apart and is a hard aspect that represents stress. The planets involved in an opposition indicate a conflict whose severity depends on the nature of the planets involved.

orb: The allowance of space between two bodies that form an aspect. The standard orb allowed for major aspects (conjunction, square, trine, and opposition) in the natal chart and for transits is about 8 degrees. The degree of orb allowed for a sextile is 6 degrees. The degree of orb allowed for progressions is 1 degree, whether applying or separating. If the Sun or the Moon is involved in the progressed aspect, the orb is extended to 1.5 degrees.

Pleiades: A fixed star cluster, also called *Alcyone*, located in the late degrees of Taurus, that was traditionally associated with blindness, misfortune, or tragic events if found on the Midheaven or conjunct another angle or important planet. Said to represent "one of the weeping sister," sorrow, or something to cry about, the star cluster has recently entered the first degree of Gemini, where it will remain until the last half of the century.

polarities: The opposition of houses that share a polarity or relationship. The houses represent opposite poles of the same root principle, but the experience of the principles differs slightly. The first through sixth houses, which are below the horizon, reflect individual application of the principles involved, while the seventh through

twelfth houses, above the horizon, show the projection of the same principles in the outer world. For example, the third and ninth houses are associated with travel and education. The third house represents short-distance travel and education through secondary school. The ninth house represents travel to foreign countries and higher education. In particular, polarities should be considered when reading return charts, especially when a planet falls exactly on a cusp, since it often stimulates the opposite house.

precessed: Precession is a method of chart calculation that takes the precession of the equinoxes into consideration. Precessed and non-precessed charts are discussed in chapter 3.

progression: Secondary Progressions are the configurations of the nativity recalculated for any time following birth based on one day of ephemeral time for each year of life. Thus, the Sun's position will move forward 1 degree for each year of life. The remaining planets also progress at various rates, depending on the speed at which they move. With the movement of planets in progression, the relationships between the planets change to show the precise potential for the time in question. They show current conditions based on previous actions. There are other types of progression as well, such as the Primary Progression and the Tertiary Progression. In this work, Secondary Progressions are discussed in part one.

radical: Radical refers to the natal horoscope and all of the factors in the birth map.

radix: The natal horoscope or birth chart.

rising: The sign and/or planet nearest the first house cusp at the eastern horizon of a chart.

Saturn chasing the Moon: A configuration in which the progressing Moon is in a conflicting aspect with transiting Saturn for an extended period of time.

sextile: An angle of 60 degrees between planets. The sextile is an easy aspect that indicates opportunities, but those opportunities must be pursued to achieve results.

square: An angle of 90 degrees between planets. The square is a hard, challenging, or stressful aspect.

Stellium: A grouping of several planets in one sign or house.

trine: A 120-degree aspect between two planets. The trine is an easy, free-flowing aspect that requires no effort to express. Hard aspects, such as the square, demand greater attention and effort.

T-Square: A configuration in which an opposition is squared by a third planet. This is a hard aspect that indicates dynamic, event-producing energy.

Vertex: A point in the western hemisphere created by the intersection of the prime vertical with the ecliptic. The Vertex appears in many cases associated with fateful encounters, either with people or circumstances.

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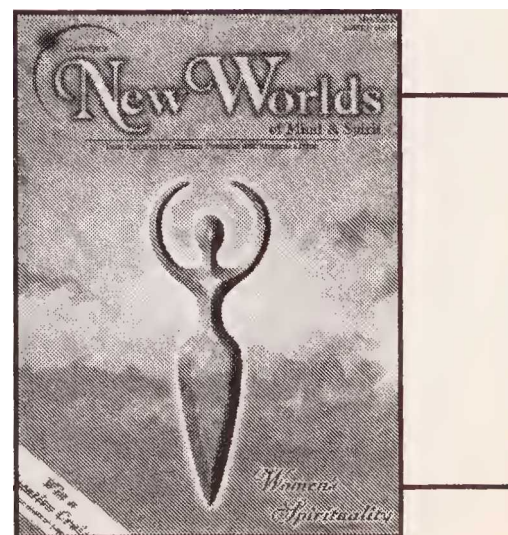
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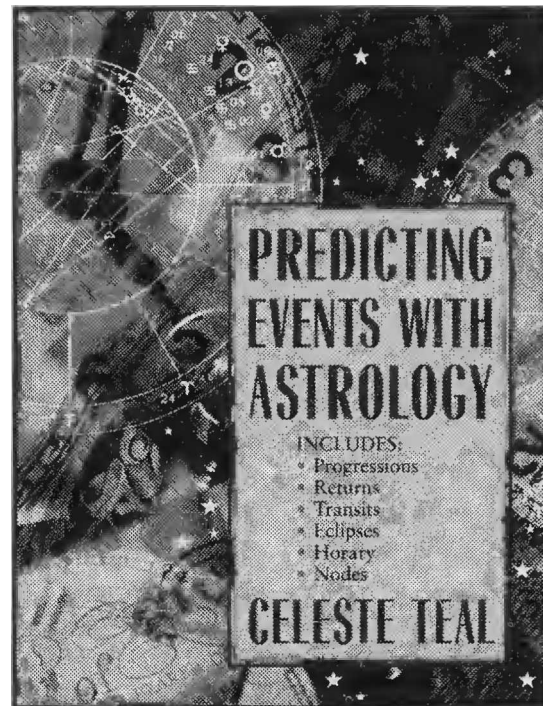
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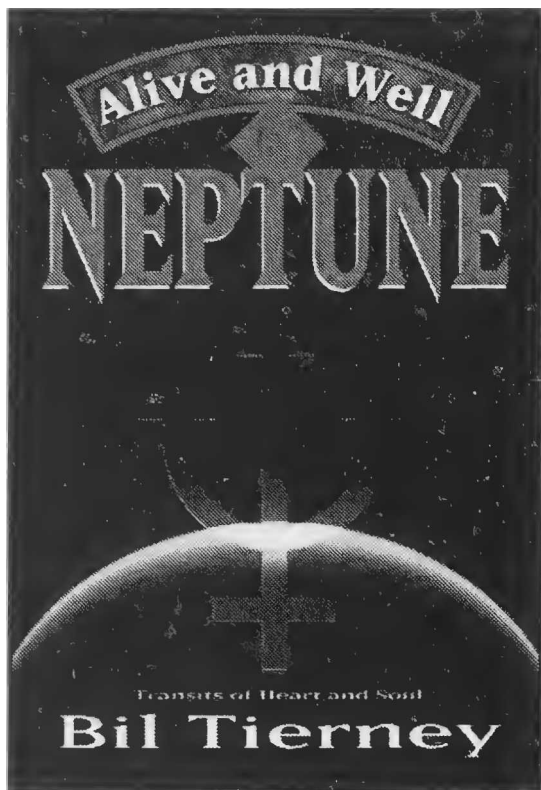
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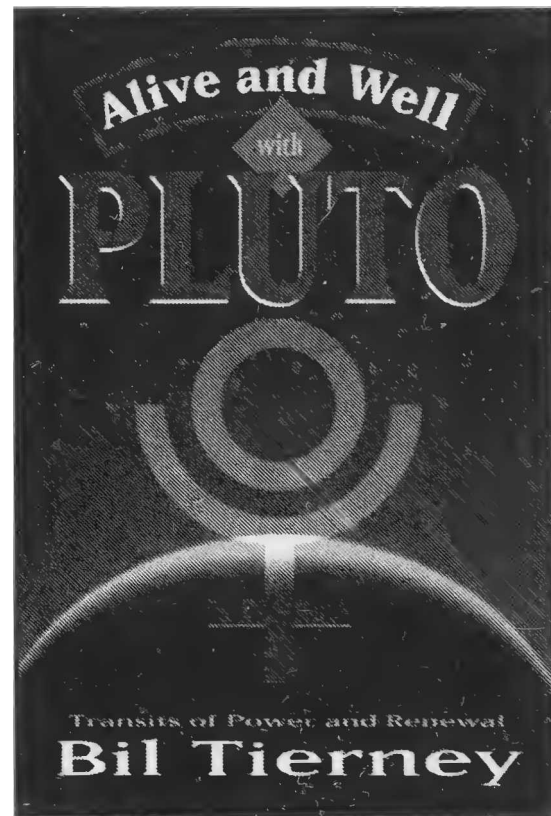
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